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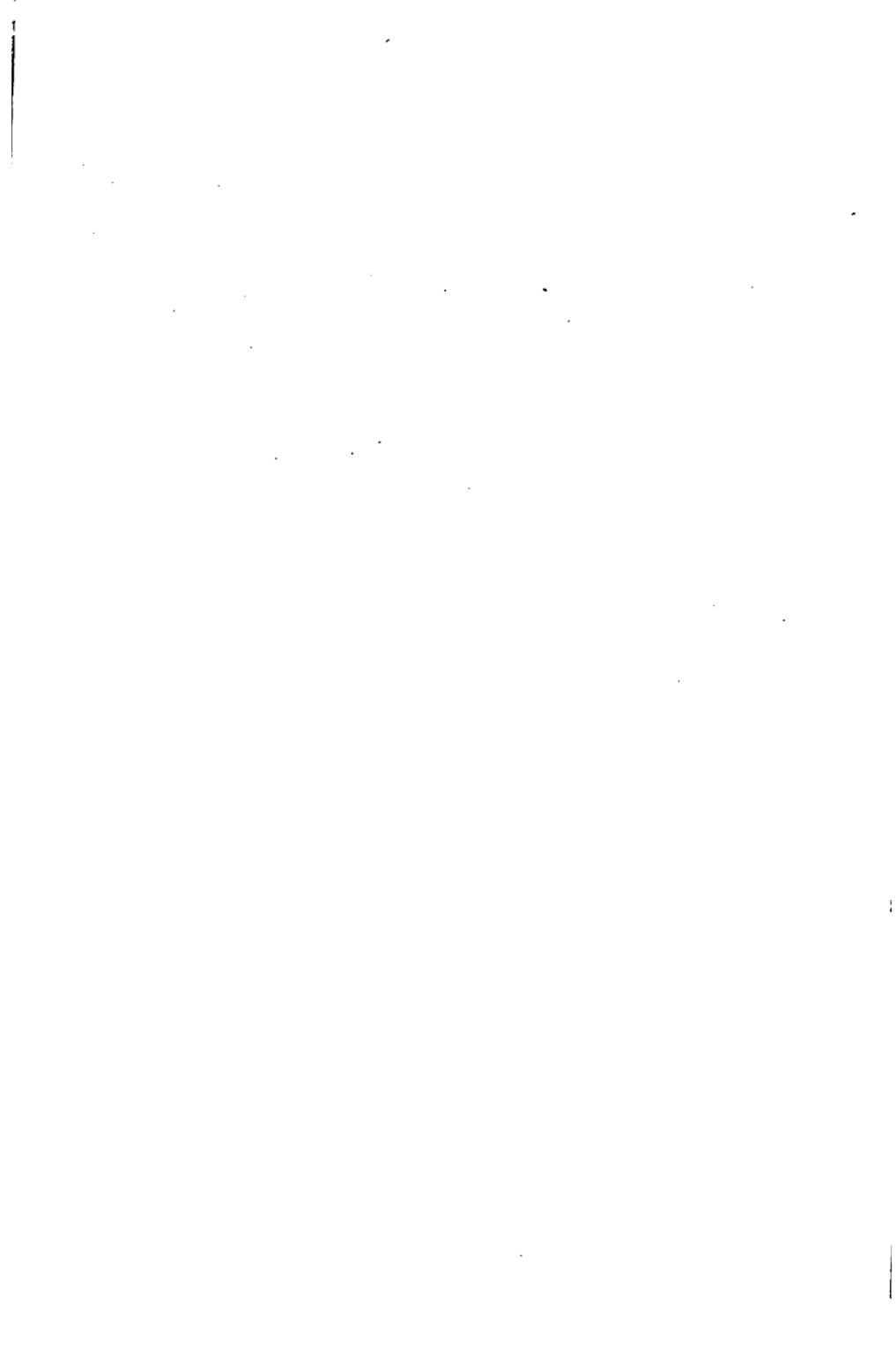


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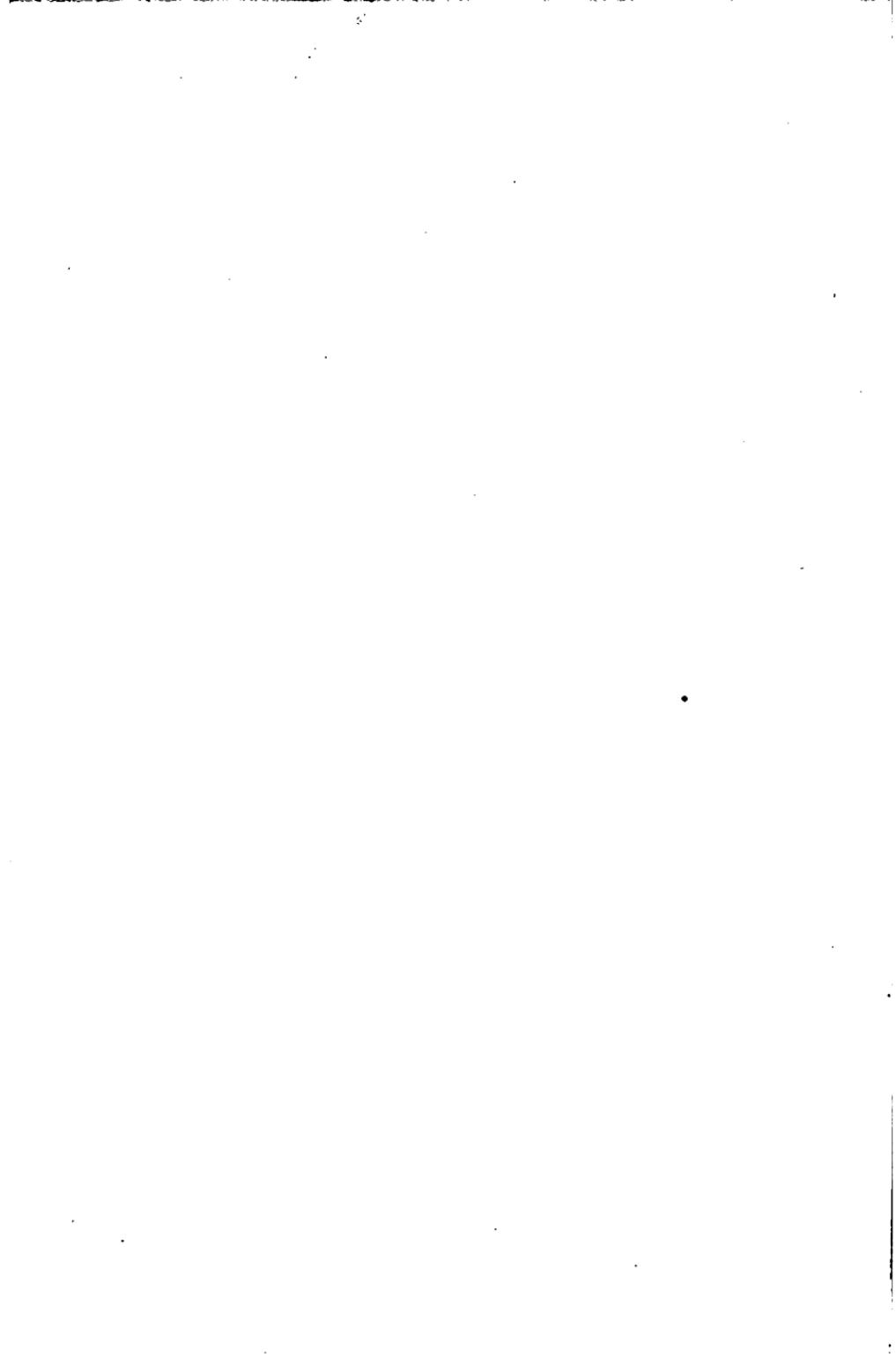
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*WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF  
AN OLD TRAVELLER.*



**JOURNAL OF A VISIT TO INDIA.**



# JOURNAL OF A VISIT

TO

## INDIA AND THE EAST.

BY AN OLD TRAVELLER.

“ Cease to persuade, my loving Proteus !  
I rather would entreat thy company  
To see the wonders of the world abroad,  
Than living dully, slaggardized at home,  
Wear out thy life with shapeless idleness.”

Printed for Private Circulation.

GLASGOW :  
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Publisher to the University.  
1877.

(y)

**E**nscribed

**TO MY DAUGHTERS,**

**MRS. JOHN ROBINSON ADAMS**

**AND**

**MRS. JAMES HENRY GEORGE HILL,**

**AND TO MY FRIEND,**

**MRS. CHARLES FREDERICK MURRAY.**



## PREFATORY NOTE.

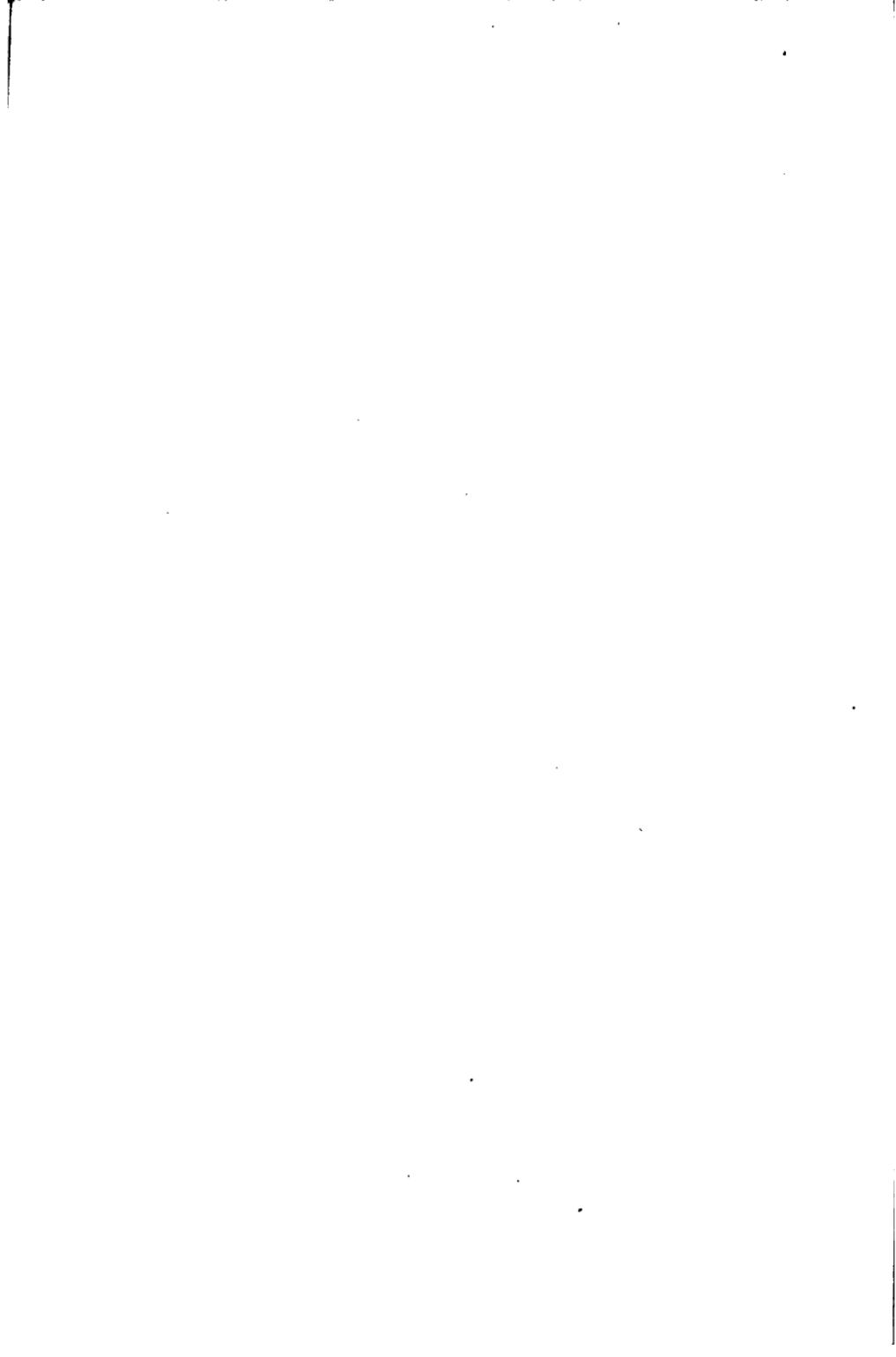
THE Journal now placed in the hands of my friends was chiefly supplied from the ample notes made on the voyage out and home, and while resident in and travelling through India.

Both eyes and ears were kept open for all matters which seemed to be new, interesting, or instructive regarding that wonderful country and its no less wonderful people.

I am particularly indebted to a publication entitled "The Prince's Guide Book," by Mr. Mackay of Delhi, which was compiled and issued on the eve of the Royal Visit. To that gentleman my thanks are due for some of the interesting notes regarding the native chiefs, a narration of which is contained in the Journal.

JAMES McCLELLAND.

32 PEMBRIDGE SQUARE,  
LONDON.



# JOURNAL OF A VISIT TO INDIA AND THE EAST.

## LETTER I.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

In beginning a long voyage one is always apt to look back with regret, parting with those we leave behind, but the feeling soon wears away with excitement of starting, with a large band of passengers on board bound for various points, all animated with the brightest prospects of enjoyment on board, and in the hope, on arriving at their promised destination, to receive the kind salutes of friends and acquaintances. It is sometimes otherwise than akin to those feelings, when an old campaigner takes, like myself, to another of those voyages which have brought on him, sometimes health and comfort, sometimes uneasy feelings at the remembrance of those left behind, and sometimes poignant regrets at the loss of friends in absence.

Thinking that it may help to repress these, I wish to disburden myself of my impressions of the coming voyage, by addressing a few letters to some kind imaginary correspondents, who will favour me by listening to a narrative, better done through letters familiarly written, than by a stuck-up or stilted account of what one saw, heard, and imagined during voyages and residence in strange countries. I hope you will, therefore, allow me to consider you for the time, one of my imaginary correspondents, and thereby help to aid me, in more readily and easily narrating many curious incidents of travel, and partial accounts of countries, through which only a limited number of European travellers have penetrated.

14th.—Our good ship was the *Venetia*, of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company, commanded by Captain Babot.

There were a full complement of passengers at starting, and, among others, the Duke of Connaught, and General Somerset, the new commandant of the military at Gibraltar.

It takes a little time on a voyage of this kind for the passengers to settle down, but should the weather prove fine all goes well in a short time. On this occasion we got in order the second day. The first was ominous. The cook had lost his head. The dinner was hardly served at all. One end of the table got soup, when the other was at pudding, and

the whole was uncooked and disagreeable ; a sad beginning for a long voyage. We bore all, however, with equanimity. Some of the Duke's suite proposed to throw the cook overboard ; others to discharge him at Gibraltar ; but others gave him the benefit of the doubt as to his ability, and let him have another trial. The young scion of royalty took the whole in good humour, and thus ended our first banquet with many jokes at our misfortune.

15th.—We were now in more auspicious condition, but the weather being cold and lowering above head, many, especially ladies, kept to their cabins. The people on board are mostly, if not altogether, of an English type, and quite unlike those found on the Atlantic steamers. One sees at a glance they are military or civilian ; not many of them are very practised travellers, and all seem bent on special missions. These youths so full of life and intelligence are the selected candidates for the Civil Service in India. They have undergone an immense work, and examinations of the most severe character. There are six of them, and all are more or less talented, so that, being what is called “off the irons,” they are as full of fun as crickets on a hearth-stone.

The military youths are of quite another type—gentlemanly, good-looking, full of joking, larking, and fun of all characters. The Prince joined gently in it, with a good-humoured intelligence, never losing his own or others' self-respect. The General and his family

are accorded great attention and respect, being their chief on land ; but like all of us passengers, alike on a *quasi equality*, the commander of the ship being for the time the authority to whom all must look and obey. For the voyage he takes the character of a despot ; but as most of them are educated, and often conciliatory and gentlemanly, the despotism is only of a very mild character.

I am fortunate in having good men in the cabin. It is large and airy, with four sleeping berths.

16th.—My companions belong to the church, to the army, and to the civilian classes—all of them well-educated men, and who apparently have seen a good deal of the world. This makes me very comfortable, and each of us give in a little in our cramped accommodation. One of the secrets of life at sea is to be kindly disposed to all around you, and especially to your cabin mates. We are for the time being “compagnons du voyage,” and will be so for a month to come, in a floating palace, with luxurious accommodation, living, and comforts unknown to the denizens who travelled a century ago, all surrounded by the ocean, and dependent on the vigilance, watchfulness, and assiduity of more than a hundred seamen, engineers, stokers, Lascars, &c.—and held at work with a firm and sometimes stern command. Passengers in making a first voyage are sometimes apt to think of something they might advise, and give hints to the captain on the management of his ship. Let any

one attempt such advice on board our craft, and a short answer will soon be given, "Mind your own affairs."

In all my voyages nothing but invariable kindness has been shown me by commanders and officers, and with their assistance, the traveller obtains a vast amount of information, which in many cases books cannot supply.

We had better fare at dinner, but still inferior to a first-class ship. All take matters in good humour, however, and no one more so than Prince Arthur, who is pleasant with every one, and looks on the bad fare as good fun for the time being.

We are now settling down to our ordinary duties and employments. My cabin companions turn out well, all on board are in good humour, and the Prince takes everything in a kindly manner. Had a long conversation with him; told him my destination and object in travelling. I found he was conversant with Egypt and its population, had studied types of various races in that country, and was fairly acquainted with the evolution theories of Darwin—in short, a young fellow full of knowledge of modern views and theories, and greatly superior to many of the superficial youths he meets with, and by whom he is often surrounded.

The lady portion of our society is specially interesting—matrons voyaging to meet husbands, others with blooming young ladies under protection; some sedate but intelligent women with husbands and

families. Thus with the civil service and military youths, full fledged with knowledge, and confident of being some day in a position to rule all India—a medley was made up of a most interesting character, which was not to be parted with on a day's knowledge of each other, but was to be a continuous display of manners, and of the external and internal workings of the human mind, for a month to come. This was, of course, a most interesting subject for me, with my previous study and acquaintance with such subjects. I was not slow, therefore, to take stock of the developments of my fellow-travellers, and thus, to my own satisfaction, attempted an estimate of all on board.

We are now nearing the famous rock of Gibraltar—too well known to need much remark. It forms the keystone of the western portion of the Mediterranean, and in any hostile event, is invaluable to Great Britain. All nations collect here, and perhaps the finest of the tribes to be seen are the Moors from Africa. The Moor made his mark on Spain very early, but after hundreds of years of fighting, found himself mastered by the superiority of the Latin tribes, and now, though subdued, the remnant appear in their descendants of the same majestic type of form and height. The rock of Gibraltar is perforated to the seaboard, and on commanding heights are numberless cannon and appliances for the work of destruction, should an enemy dare to approach. At

the same time so thoroughly is the whole concealed from common view, that an ordinary looker-on would discover little else than the bare rocks, running up many hundred feet from sea level ; but let a hostile fleet appear, and as many openings bristling with cannon would show themselves as numerous as the eyes of Argus in fabled story.

We only remained at "Gib," as the rock and fortress is familiarly called, a short time, amid a leaden sky and mist and fog on the rock. Parted with the Prince and his jolly companions in a quiet and unostentatious manner, although a demonstration was made on the quarter-deck of the ship by representatives of the army and navy stationed at Gibraltar, coming on board in full costume to pay their respects to a scion of royalty. On landing, the Prince received a salute of guns from one of the batteries ; and thus vanished from our ship and table, a young, educated, and talented member of the Queen's family. So carefully taught and imbued with modern ideas in literature and science, with a kindly disposition in approaching every one on board, and with a hail-fellow-well-met disposition, he formed to all of us a favourable contrast to many of the young scions of nobility who are unable to speak the English language otherwise than in a style of which Lord Dundreary is a caricatured type.

We got to sea again in cold, thundery, showery weather, but soon entered on the mild still climate so often experienced in the grand expanse of the Medi-

terranean. Passengers all began to look lively—cards, games, and music being the order of the day, some ladies singing in a charming style, and aiding to put all on board in kindly good nature with each other. Music imparts a pleasing state to all in any circumstances, but more especially at sea, where all feel themselves dependent on each other for pleasant communion, during a long contemplated voyage—the female voice on such occasions reminding us of Byron's ode to his lady-love,

“Oh ! there be none of beauty's daughters with a magic like  
thee,

Like music on the waters is thy sweet voice to me.”

And so we went on nightly amid good weather, improved grub, and a desire to know “who's who” among all parties in our good ship. This process gave rise to many private gossips, and enabled us to pass a day or two with many lively guesses, and a few surmises.

Our society, after leaving Gibraltar, where we left upwards of a dozen passengers, consisted of about eighty, of the description already given. The party formed themselves into an agreeable society for the time being; and as both the weather and the whole management on board the ship favoured us, we might be considered a company of joyous travellers bent on a continuous “picnic” of a month's duration. The ladies worked with the needle during portions of the day, assiduously wrote up their notebooks another

portion, and made up in modest flirting and badinage another portion, the evening of the day ending in a continuance of the music, both vocal and instrumental, which sent all, by the time the lights were extinguished, to slumber in a satisfied frame of mind. The dresses of the party, now that the weather moderated in an agreeable rise in temperature, were for the ladies modest and useful, suited to both elements through which we were careering ; and the gentlemen wore those motley nondescript garments which now assume large proportions among all land and ocean travellers.

One exception, however, brought out the contrast in a remarkable degree. One lady in the ship caused both amusement and interest. She appeared on the quarter-deck when the day was well worn, dressed in a superb brocaded satin of gorgeous appearance and colour, gloved with white kid, and a profusion of elegant jewels on the fingers, outside the gloves. Her appearance betokened that of the Ancient Race—a handsome countenance, with pale complexion, large blue eyes, and semi-black hair profusely scattered over her head. The lady travelled with a nurse, maid, and valet, and with an infant son about twenty months old, one of the finest forms of a child, and the very picture of the mother. Her delicacy is so great that assistance is necessary from the valet to get her planted on a reclining chair, and is then often surrounded by curious and sympathizing fellow-travellers. The lady

journeys under the name of Countess C——, is a remarkable woman, speaks various languages, and intelligently converses in English, has been a *habituée* of the Tuilleries under the Empire, and speaks disparagingly of the mode of life in that elevated French circle. She seems sometimes to be sad in thought, and has told the doctor of the ship she has not been happy at home. She is bound for Rome, and takes this round-about way to get there for ease, and to save fatigue of land travel. She has, of course, an enormous pile of luggage, with a large jewel-box insured for £1,500. One extraordinary peculiarity of this lady she tells herself. In the morning about nine o'clock she gets into a state of catalepsy, and remains in this state for hours at a time, and in order to free her system from this somnolence, a galvanic application is necessary. On one occasion, she relates, this somnolence lasted for twenty-four hours, and the attendants then upon her, were about to place her, in a last resting-place when she came out of the catalepsy. We got all very much interested in this lady and her history, and of course the narration of her case formed an interesting topic, for many reunions at the breakfast and dinner tables. Her history had something apparently mysterious in it. Though surrounded by servants, a handsome infant, and all the comforts of apparent wealth, one could not conceal that, with a delicate state of health and unattended by any gentleman companion, there was something to be explained in her travelling thus

alone ; and what completed our curiosity was that she hailed from Cl——m, a popular resort in the neighbourhood of London.

Now we are speeding on our way, in our seventh day, at the rate of 270 miles, and with glorious weather ; will soon reach Malta, where every one hopes to have a long day, in visiting that gem of the Mediterranean, and so full of interest to all nations, from the earliest days of Christianity to the present time. In the meantime our young friends have not been idle. One of them, who hails from a portion of the same cabin where my wearied limbs are rested, has written a newspaper, and is now engaged in its distribution among the lady portion of our good ship. The production is called "The Albatross," being the name of a large bird that often follows ships at sea. The contents are of a very superior character, full of life and fun, and well adapted as an improvised caricature of many of the leading topics of the day—in fact, a sort of nautical *Punch*.

Our fair friends who nurse the sick, and do acts of kindness and charity for the invalids, are commended ; while the ladies who spend their time in everlasting penmanship and scandal, are teased with a gentle though significant hand. The male creation were libelled where needed in pretty rough terms. The circulation of the paper created the greatest interest, and gave quite a fillip to the talk at the breakfast and dinner table.

Now that we are partially acquainted with each other, all begin to inquire the history of his neighbour, and what takes him or her this voyage, whether a lengthened stay is intended in India, and whether all the young ladies are going home from school, or taking a voyage on spec, or their health having suffered they are changing the climate for recovery. The male portion are easily classed. They are of the military, legal, and civil service, with a sprinkling of the planter and merchant class. But what can that elderly gentleman, with the unchangeable colour of massive hair on his head, be going to India for? No one can divine his purpose. It is not business—his age betokens that calling does not trouble him. What is it, then, that makes him brave the dangers of the deep? This movement went on for a day or two, until the secret was revealed that the old party was making a voyage, to visit his daughter married and living in India.

There is a sort of mild excitement got up on such a voyage as this as to the speed of the ship, and guessing the number of miles run in twenty-four hours. Nothing seems to be settled in such a matter as this without a wager, and accordingly small sums are put into a common fund, to be paid to the party whose number is the same or nearest, to the speed reported of the ship at twelve o'clock on each day. No interest is taken by me in these movements, but it is amusing to look on and witness the excitement parties get into on so small a matter.

*23rd October, 1875.*—A break now occurs in our voyage—steam cannot be generated without fuel, and the supply getting diminished, Malta is made a depot for what is called “coaling,” and accordingly, when anchor is cast in the harbour of Malta, and our good ship well moored, the noise and worry of shipping the fuel begins, without any notice being given to the hapless voyager, likely in his cabin (for it is now two o'clock A.M., of the 23rd of this month), soundly enjoying himself in the arms of Morpheus. Up he gets, and, with moderate toilet, seeks, with his fellow-passengers, the first pinnace to land, to behold the wonders of the little island and gem of the ocean.

Two of my mates accompanied me—the one was the Rev. Mr. Howard, and the other Mr. Higginbotham—excellent companions, such as I should have wished to travel round the world with. Higginbotham is an official in the railway system in Melbourne, and of all the railways in that portion of Australia. He knows some of my friends in that country, in Scotland, and England; so this common acquaintance makes us friends. He is of a sanguine, lymphatic temperament, with a compact, moderate-sized brain. He is travelling round the world with ease and comfort, and as his knowledge of men and countries is great, he becomes a most interesting companion. With these two gentlemen we landed at the steps of the harbour of Malta, walked up one hundred and forty of these steps, and got into the streets of the

quaintest old city that is to be seen in the Mediterranean. Our visit being early in the morning, the streets were full of the Maltese making purchases, ere the sun drove them inside. We encountered the various classes, consisting of priests, beggars, cab-drivers, boatmen, soldiers, and blind men. The beggars are the most strenuous I have seen in any country, and the number of blind quite surprised me. The streets of the city run up from the sea, and a large number of them are so steep, you imagine yourself walking up a stair, with quaint architecture on both sides of the streets, such as is often seen in various old cities of the Mediterranean, whose history reaches centuries anterior to the Christian era. After partaking of a comfortable repast we sallied forth to view the docks, shipping, the churches, and public places. As we passed along the streets we met with our fellow-passenger, Captain Sullivan, who proved, from his knowledge of naval affairs, an excellent guide to the finest views and history of the whole naval settlement.

We visited the palace of the Governor, and also the Church of St. John, one of the most curious and beautiful in the Mediterranean, and proved well worth any traveller's minute examination. The view from the heights of the city, overlooking the docks, gives a splendid conception of the strength, and security, and protection of this coveted gem of the ocean—so much prized by England, and coveted by all European nations.

We made thus a very charming trip for a few hours, and in our passage to the boat were surrounded by indigent men and women selling splendid bouquets of flowers ; so we invested in many of the best specimens, one of which I presented to Lady C., refraining from mentioning its cost, which was sixpence sterling ! We had, through the kindness of the ladies, so much music before reaching Malta, that a proposal was set on foot by some of the young civilians to purchase a piano, and of course no sooner was this said, than done, and as the ship was weighing anchor the coveted instrument was hauled on board and transferred to the main deck. We were soon in full speed for the land of Pharaoh, the average miles run reaching daily two hundred and fifty. The atmosphere gets into the tropical regions, and all on board take to changing dresses ; the weather proves most prosperous—the sea smooth as glass, and the sun bright but not too powerful, and this being Sunday all on board are afloat. The whole crew assembled with the "Lascars" in their best Sunday clothes, looking very picturesque, all drawn out, and paraded in soldierly style, and examined by the captain and head officers. Our friend Mr. Howard read the service of the English Church on deck, but did not venture upon any sermon. The piano choir formed an excellent accompaniment in the service, to the voices of the ladies, some of whom sang with great efficiency. As the weather continued fine, music was the order of the day, and

many of the ladies gave us with a will, hymns on deck in the moonlight. We are now running in the midst of the Mediterranean, with Italy and Turkey on the one hand and Africa on the other; thus in mid-ocean we see nothing but a vast expanse of sea. In the midst of so many passengers of both sexes, the charming alteration in the weather and the usual excitement of the day seem to throw parties into small cliques, and make the younger portion of the passengers, among whom our friends, the Civil Service young gentlemen, are rather prominent, begin to show symptoms of being what is called "spooney" on the amiable and talented young ladies, who formed part of our society.

We now have the weather mild and rather hot. What gives a pleasure to all passengers at sea, is the use of the sea-water bath, which is plunged into early every morning, and thus makes one feel in good spirits with all around during the rest of the day.

Among our young Civil Service friends who were now wending their way to the East, and who are enamoured at the idea of becoming masters and judges among the Hindoo and Mahometan population, none of them attracted my attention so much as young M'Lane, a youth born in Paris of Scotch and French parents. He shows himself talented in almost every subject you can speak of. He is a good linguist, with a considerable knowledge of ancient literature. He passed his examinations on that head, with great *éclat*,

but failed in mathematical, and scientific studies. We now have, in the evening, with the accompaniment of the piano, very good music from both the ladies and gentlemen, and the younger portion of our friends take occasionally to dancing on the deck. The evenings generally terminate by sea songs from the captain, and his senior officers, listened to with great *éclat* and applause by every one.

The land of Pharaoh is now ahead, and a new sensation is created by the appearance in the midst of the ocean of a variety of birds following the ship, and although we are on all sides out of the sight of land, we have swallows, seagulls, and hawks forming a portion of our party and indicating the near approach of land. According to the expectations of the captain, we shall reach Port Said, forming the entrance to the Suez Canal, early in the morning of October 27. It is curious to see the flight of these birds. The swallow is travelling to a warmer climate to avoid the cold of the north; the seagull follows us to pick up food in the shape of crumbs thrown overboard at the end of each meal, the hawk following his calling, by seizing the small birds that come within his reach, and all have an instinctive feeling they are not far from land.

In anticipation of the first sight of the great work of Lesseps and the Khedive of Egypt all our party are very agreeable and jolly, and show themselves so by the ample singing and amusement going on after dinner.

We are now at the entrance to the Canal and anchored at Port Said. The owners take care the ship does not pass through without paying the enormous dues for its passage down to the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea. Our first news on anchoring was that the *Serapis*, with the Prince of Wales and suite on board, left four days before we reached, and had increased the speed of the ship to about twelve knots an hour, all the party being in good health.

Anchored at the mouth of the Canal we found two English ships of war stationed. Alongside of our ship crowds of Egyptians in small boats came to visit us, selling small wares, photographs, eatables, and all sorts of native productions. These natives of the Egyptian type are now all scantily dressed, speaking only a few words of English, but jabbering to themselves in Arabic.

We now feel ourselves in the tropical regions, and in evidence of it our ship's crew take to light clothing, and the officers to what is called a tropical dress ; but as I did not feel inclined for much lighter clothing than what I wore, I resolved delaying any alteration till we got to the Red Sea.

We are now passing through the magnificent work of Monsieur Lesseps, the distinguished projector of the Suez Canal, one of the finest of European works, deserving of the greatest credit to France and its countryman, Lesseps. While England looked on and sneered, at the accomplishment of such an undertaking,

the difficulties were boldly faced, and by the assistance of the Khedive of Egypt, this great work was brought to maturity, and in ocean travelling forms one of the greatest successes in modern times. The cost has no doubt been great, reaching, it is said, to eighteen millions sterling. The traffic is not yet equal to remunerate the holders of this large sum, the returns being only about one million sterling, while the working expenses reach £700,000; but the returns weekly improve, and it is to be hoped will soon reach a dividend paying point. We pass now quietly along at speed limited to five knots an hour, as an increased rate tends, by the wave of the ship, to displace the embankments, and might thus, cause additional dredging from the bottom. The Canal is about 370 feet wide, and the centre is deep enough to pass a ship drawing 28 feet of water; its length is about one hundred miles between Port Said and Suez, and consists of the Canal as artificially made and what is called the bitter lakes and Lake Tamasch.

The progress down the Canal was very successful, and the weather being fine, we beheld, as we passed along its banks, one of the grandest works of modern times.

It may be interesting to notice that before what is called the overland route to India was projected, by a gentleman whom I personally knew (Capt. Waghorn), it was customary to reach Bombay by the way of the Cape of Good Hope; that voyage was both tedious and dangerous, 10,800 miles were obliged to be passed

over, before a ship could reach India. The distance now to Bombay by the Suez Canal is 6,020 miles, and thus a saving in time and mileage is gained in reaching our Indian Empire of 4,080 miles. Some most interesting spots are passed on our way down the canal. One of these is a height called Serapium, now covered with the debris of an ancient city; recent excavations show the remains of a large city, flourishing at one time, anterior to the Christian era. The population is said to have reached four hundred thousand people, to have had a library not inferior to that of Alexandria; but the inhabitants of Serapium and those of Alexandria were often at war on points of theological controversy, and ultimately Serapium was demolished, its inhabitants scattered, and its library burned; thus giving an ascendancy to Alexandria, and to its tenets in theology now handed down to our generation. We come now to another interesting point upon the canal, called Chalouf. It stands near to the great canal called the Sweet Water Canal and the communication cut by Darius between the bitter lakes and the Red Sea. It is supposed to stand from twenty to twenty-five feet above the sea level. In the neighbourhood of this place and near to the end of the bitter lakes, the soil is marshy in winter and dry in summer, and as it stands on the direct line towards Syria, many are inclined to place the site of the passage of the Israelites into the Holy Land, near to this point of Chalouf, and thus allowing

enormous tribes to pass, in so very short a time as is ascribed in the Old Testament, and without the intervention of the miracle of raising a wall of sea water, on both sides of the supposed passage of the Israelites into their adopted country. The mountains around this portion of the Canal nearing the Red Sea appear to be of volcanic origin, and give evidence of having been sea margins at one period of the history of the world. On arriving at Suez we found the population were almost all idle, and holding one of their religious festivals. In order to witness the character of the population, we took, after the ship was anchored, an Egyptian boat manned by a semi-dark fellow, who told us that he came to Suez chiefly to make money, and then retire to the holy city of Mecca, where his father lived. He was an intelligent and able seaman, and managed, with two fellahs on board, his trim little vessel with great sagacity. On reaching the town of Suez we found it to be a place miserable in appearance and decayed in every portion of its houses and streets. Having obtained an introduction to a gentleman in a prominent position named Roberts, I called upon him, but found that he had gone to Cairo to pay his respects to the Khedive. I delivered the letter of introduction to the chief person in command named Andrews, and after some slight conversation, I found that he had known me in early life in Scotland. It was curious the way this came about. He stated that he had

at one time been a clerk in a lawyer's office in Glasgow, and used to go to the office of a gentleman named M'Clelland several times every week, but he said, "As now my masters are both dead, I think Mr. M'Clelland is so too." I interrupted him by saying, "He is not dead yet, for I am the man." We thus got into a kindly conversation, which enabled me to quote him, in case I found any difficulty in the neighbourhood of Suez. In order to see the Mohammedan religion inside one of their mosques, I went to the door of one and asked an Egyptian who could speak English whether I could enter. He shook his head, indicating that if I did so, I must take off my boots, which I refrained from doing, and only looked in at the whole attendance sitting on their haunches with a Dervish priest, evidently discoursing to them in the Arabic language. So completely beholden are some of the common people to the Dervish priests and their religion, that at some of the festivals these priests ride an Arabian charger, and the people fall down, allowing the horse to walk over them, thus trampling legs and arms and causing accidents, thereby manifesting, as the sufferers thought, the likelihood of soon going to heaven.

We now make a fresh start down the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea—the passengers from Brindisi, by the railway from Alexandria, having joined us to the number of thirty, composed of an intelligent class, chiefly of the military and civil service. We had

another inmate in the cabin in which we slept, named Major Walker, an officer in the political department of India, a travelled man, with a large head, and a temperament lymphatic and sanguine, and his perceptive organs large, with the coronal surface well developed, indicating, as he proved to be, a very good fellow. We now pass into the Red Sea, with its heat, its magnificent scenery, and traverse the land which on each side has given birth to so many splendid and interesting episodes in the history of the world. Near to where we pass may be found Mount Manessa, and the well called Moses' Well, where he and his fellow-travellers slaked their thirst after passing out of Egypt. Before we go farther I should like, as a tribute to the Khedive, to state that the enormous outlay he has made at Suez, in docks, quays, and warehouses, for the benefit of the shipping passing through the canal, are of a splendid character, and are destined to last for ages, waiting for the development, which must be very great, of the industries of his country. Whatever may be said of the extravagance of the Khedive in other respects, such as the building of palaces and subsidizing his court, no one can look upon the solid work done at Suez without acknowledging a debt of gratitude by all who daily in their ships, so scantily use these noble works. In passing Ismaila, which has now been converted into a town along the Canal, a palace was pointed out to us built expressly for the opening of the Canal, and for the reception of those

who were present at the ceremony. Among these were the Empress of the French, and other European powers. The palace occupies a prominent position on the banks of the Canal, but is now unused. Lesseps has got in this town a residence for his family, and entertains, with great generosity, travellers remaining there, or passing through Egypt. Around this town are patches of planting, made so as to induce rain to fall, which has been partially successful. There has also been planted various specimens of the "*Eucalyptus globulus*," a tree which grows in mild climates as rapidly in eight years as an oak will do in forty. It renders marshy grounds healthy by absorbing miasma, and the aroma, from its leaves, prevents diseases, both of fever and cholera, taking place near the planting.

As we passed down, nearing Suez, the thermometer reached about  $82^{\circ}$  in the shade, and requires passengers to use their tropical clothes, and take care to remain out of the sun, and under the double awning of the ship. As we now approach the Gulf of Suez, we look, at a considerable distance, upon the mountains of Mount Ephraim and Manassa in the direction of Mount Sinai, and to those who are acquainted with ancient and Egyptian history, thoughts are recalled of a nature not soon to be forgotten. We pass also an island called the Brothers, and learn from those on board, that the Red Sea is now so well planted with lighthouses, that it may be likened to the method in which the streets of a large city are lighted.

Dangers, however, often occur from coral reefs, starting up in mid-ocean, plainly seen growing under the clear water, and some of them are said sometimes to be upwards of twenty feet above the surface. At a ferry passing down the gulf, we witnessed a host of Egyptians with their families, camels, and baggage, waiting to be carried across and landed upon the road reaching Mount Sinai, Mecca, and the Holy Land. This motley group, of a singularly striking character, are making their annual religious trip to Mecca, where the remains of their great god, Mahomed, are alleged to be buried. These poor people in this voyage often suffer great privations, and contract diseases, making great havoc in their number; but instructions in the Koran are so emphatic, that should the voyage not be taken, they are under the impression that the joys of heaven would be denied them when they die. The land immediately opposite Suez at low-water tide forms a sort of lagoon covered with sand. It is alleged that near to this spot, as formerly described, and to the bitter lakes, the lagoon is a sort of marsh in the winter time, and thoroughly dry in summer; and that the host of the Israelites, in escaping from Egypt, took this portion of their journey on dry land, and enabled them thus, to the enormous number stated in the Old Testament, to make the passage in twenty-four hours. This view of the passage of the Israelites is reported by Herr Burgch, a well-known Egyptologist, and is

considered by far the most important theory, seeing it is based on papyri and inscriptions, the latter still existing on an old Egyptian monument.

*1st November, 1875.*—We are now in full passage through the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea. The heat gets more intense, making 86° in the shade early in the morning, and, the wind being nearly south-east, the breeze is soft, causing profuse perspiration from the skin, and there is a stifling feeling in the air tending to throw the whole bodily system into an unpleasant condition. The appetite now seems partially to fail, and those who have passed through this, in a more tropical portion of the year, think we should imitate the native and both eat and drink less, inhaling the pure atmosphere, and letting the body lie comparatively still. It is thus, they think, that many of the natives of Arabia and Africa reach to an age unknown in civilized communities.

We are now about five hundred miles from Aden, and will not reach that station till Wednesday, 3rd November. This is said to be the most trying period for a traveller's health in passing to India, the heat is so great, and the wind being with the ship, causes it to feel so stiffling, that many of the passengers who have hitherto stood out so well begin to feel the dangers of the climate. Many of them turned to me as though from my age, it was likely I might be the first to give way, and the doctor of the ship imagined I would

require to be under his care. The predictions, however, were not verified; I appeared at every meal, and although the quantity consumed was moderate both in food and liquor, I did not give way. One thing however happened, which now gave a relief to the whole system. What is well known as prickly heat came out and covered the whole of the breast of my body with numerous infinitesimal pimples. All my friends proclaimed this was a capital sign, as the heat, if it had gone internally, might have given rise to fever. The whole atmosphere was stifling and hot, and but for a little breeze of wind breaking out, would have been almost insufferable. The passengers now began to think how the night was to be spent in their berths, and an immediate demand was made for parting off the whole deck, and for hammocks to sleep upon. Most of the ladies took to these, and many of the gentlemen scrambled for good places to sleep in the open air. My friend Major Walker, and also Captain Sullivan, both of whom had made many voyages in tropical climates, advised me to keep my cabin, where I would be better placed, notwithstanding the heat. One of the reasons for giving this advice was, that the damp atmosphere of the morning, before the sun reached the horizon, was prejudicial and injurious to the system.

I adopted the views of these sagacious and intelligent travellers, and though the berths were closed, in consequence of a high sea coming on, I felt little in-

convenience, though the perspiration was profuse, and the sleeping constant.

This state of matters continued for about forty-eight hours, and although the thermometer still marked 74° in the shade in the morning, and the heat was rather stiffling, a fresh breeze started up and enabled all on board to pass a more agreeable time. We are now passing a range of islands called Jabelpere. They are twelve in number, and are jocularly named "the twelve apostles." They are all of volcanic origin and uninhabited. The only signs of life, to be seen in their neighbourhood, are numerous birds flying around.

*3rd November.*—We now approach the island of Perim, situated about five miles from the Arabian and nine miles from the African coast. The island stands about 245 feet above the level of the sea, has got a lighthouse upon it, and ranges about a mile and a half long. It has got an excellent harbour, and so sheltered that large ships of war could anchor and receive shelter within one hundred yards of the sea beach. It is quite a barren island, and although we now hold it, it is looked upon as a sort of banishment for the officer and the few soldiers who remain upon it. The food supplies need to be imported, and failing the soldiers having resources within themselves, there is apt to be discontent. This barren possession of the English is of great importance to our Indian possessions. With Perim on the one side, and with Aden near to the Gulf of the Bombay ocean, all comers, in case of war, would be

shut out from the Red Sea. The island is about ninety miles from Aden, which we are now approaching. Before leaving Perim it may be as well to note the popular story of its occupation. It appears to have been a master-stroke of policy, in the then Commander of Aden, early in the present century. A French ship coming from the Indian Ocean cast anchor at Aden, and upon its being known that an English Governor was resident there, the Commander of the French ship called, and was invited to dine with the Governor. The mission of the Frenchman having been found to be the possession of Perim, the Governor lost no time in ordering a fast vessel from the station to start for the island, carrying with it both sappers and miners, and with instructions to the captain to take possession of the island and plant thereon the British flag. These instructions were, of course, done according to order, the corvette having got ahead of the French ship, and when the Frenchman landed in Perim he found the English in possession and that they could not be disturbed.

We now pass on to the settlement of the English at Aden, which forms a barren and rocky peninsula, and seems to be, from its volcanic origin, the crater of an extinct volcanic mountain. We are not destined to reach Aden before nine o'clock in the evening of the 3rd November, and as we leave at four o'clock on the morning of the 4th November, I resolved to remain on board, notwithstanding the annoyance of coaling on

board the ship. We leave here several passengers, among whom is Captain Sullivan, who has been my constant companion on board ship, and who remains at Aden to catch the steamer for Zanzibar, in order to take command of H.M. ship *London*. All of us who had the acquaintance of Sullivan regretted his leaving. He was an educated gentleman, and, like all men who had been long at sea under a naval commander, he told stories of a most amusing character, gave us occasional sea songs, and made himself most agreeable to those on board.

*Thursday, 4th November.*—We now start on our last stage to India. The thermometer in the shade is 84°, and as the wind is right in our teeth, being N.E., and a good breeze blowing, we are now all well and in joyful expectation of reaching land. The alteration of the atmosphere is very evident among all the passengers on board; they eat and drink with wonderful capacity.

Young M'Lane has not been idle during all the hot weather, and has got up a play in two acts which he calls "Extravaganza." It is filled with stories of what has been going on, on board the ship, and with amusing songs referring to many incidents of the voyage. M'Lane has had a curious history, as before mentioned, has a bilious, nervous, lymphatic temperament, a good anterior lobe, ideality, and wonder large, perceptive faculties good, reflective, moderate, posterior lobe large, and firmness and concentrativeness also

large, and language well developed ; he has more showy talent than any other of the six civilians who accompany him to India. From what is now stated however of his development, it may be found that he is more wayward than the rest of his companions, and may allow, from their sobriety of character and their evident application to work, all of them to get ahead of him.

*Friday, 5th November.*—The weather is now cooler and pleasant, with wind N.N.E., all on deck enjoying it, some reading, some writing, and others conversing with considerable excitement, with wagers about the ship's speed, and calculations as to the chances of our arrival in Bombay. It is curious to remark, although we are so far from England, that this day, being one notorious in English history, the sailors will not allow it to pass without its celebration. They accordingly dress one of their companions in the style of the notorious Guy Fawkes, and carry him round the ship—with full honours and music—held up by two poles ; the sight, although not very instructive, was amusing to the passengers, and filled up a portion of the tedious feeling so often apparent nearing the end of a long voyage.

*6th November.*—The weather continues to be all that could be desired. We go on merrily, having run, for the day, two hundred and seventy-six miles. Arrangements are now being made for acting M'Lane's play

to-night; the carpenters have erected the stage and other appliances so as to render the ceremony a success; M'Lane gets excited over the whole affair, and all hope it will pass over well. We have now on board a native Rajah, who joined us at Aden on his way from a visit to his father at Zanzibar. He has his wife and large family, several servants, is an intelligent man, and although only twenty-five years he is large and corpulent, and should I think weigh upwards of sixteen stones; was married when he was ten years of age, but looks now as if he was forty. He speaks English very well. He was on a visit to the Sultan and his father. When he found I came from London, he asked if I had seen his father. His father formed one of the suite of the Sultan of Zanzibar on the visit that potentate made to England. He was pleased to think I had seen His Majesty and his suite, and no doubt his father was among them. His wife and children were dressed with great luxuriance, and wearing the usual amount of Indian jewellery. In a conversation I had with him he thought it strange I should be going so far to the East, told me he thought I was very old, was very inquisitive regarding my age, and asked me twice for it. This was a topic of constant conversation for a time on board ship. Some of the youths wanted to make a pool upon my age so as to make a little money by it, but I declined to allow this to be done.

*6th November.*—This was the day fixed for the

performance of the theatricals. The ship's crew made complete arrangements, the stage was well got up, and ample seats for the whole of the passengers in front of the stage. The ladies were dressed in evening style. Though it was unusual for the Zenana's children to patronize such exhibitions, our friend the Indian Rajah and his whole family appeared. This was looked upon as a great compliment to the party on board. M'Lane was unable to find a lady to represent one of the parts, so with help, and dresses and colours lent by the Zenana, and in the character of "Marianne," played the part with much success, and immense spirit and fun. The entertainment ended with the popular farce of "Box and Cox."

We are now in the Indian Ocean, and the last Sunday at sea. It is said to be the period of the monsoon, but it is not felt, and the ship makes eleven knots an hour. The day passes very pleasantly. The crew and the officers appear in their best clothes for a time, and our friend Mr. Howard reads the prayers in presence of the whole party, and apparently very acceptable to all on board.

Many of the ladies having found out that I was an expert in giving characters, pressed me to examine the organs in their heads, and give each of them their development. This I declined doing, and told them that were I to give an account of some of their organs, they would get indignant, thinking that no one could predict, what was only known to them-

selves. The majority of the ladies were very talented, and made the passage of the ship very pleasant to all on board. Having been so long at sea, however, some parties are apt to get into cliques, and take liberties in talking disagreeable matters of one set, and agreeable to another; but this was soon to end, as we were within sixty hours of our destination.

The usual and agreeable concerts continued in the evening, and some excellent sacred music on Sunday. The correspondence and amusement of the young parties, seem now to come to a head, as the secrets were revealed, first to our friend the parson, and afterwards to our whole ship's company, that no less than three proposals and acceptances on the part of the ladies had been effected, to the no small amusement of those who had no part in them. This, it seems, is often a usual accompaniment, in a prosperous voyage to India, with a crowded ship, and almost uniform good weather.

Matters now went on very quietly, and as we came nearer the end of our voyage, practical joking was carried on, to the amusement of some, but to the great annoyance of others. In the midst of these, our friend the parson lost his dressing-gown, and for a time it could not be found throughout the whole ship. This was attributed as a mild joke on the part of the lady passengers; but afterwards the missing garment turned up, and the joking was found to be carried on by one of the excitable young men on board.

We are now within a few hours of Bombay, and all

on board get more or less excited. Some party hinted that the Prince's arrival had brought together such great crowds, that fifty rupees a night was charged for a lodging. We now look out for the baggage that has been stowed away in the hold, and a scene of confusion and uproar arises, difficult to understand, but to those who have made long voyages in a crowded ship. The ladies, of course, cannot get on without a variety of packages of a large description. One of these was of such a character that it almost reached to the height of its lady owner. Old travellers take care not to encumber themselves, and accordingly all my traps were in and near to the cabin in which I slept.

On the 10th November, just before sunrise, we sighted the land of the Indian shores, and thereafter we were hailed by a pilot, who was taken on board; and the first enquiry made at this gentleman, was as to the reception of so large a company at the hotels and elsewhere. His report was quite favourable, and we found all that had not friends to put them up, could readily get into the large hotels of Bombay.

We cast anchor about twelve o'clock in the midst of a broiling sun. The appearance of the bay, reaching to the island of Bombay, was of the most superb description; the whole bay was studded with ships of the line alongside of the *Serapis*, which carried the Prince, and a numerous fleet of merchant ships made the surrounding shores and the rising heights one of the finest sights a traveller could behold.

We were now surrounded by boats leaving the land, containing parties wishful to exchange money, touters for hotels, and various dark-skinned men asking you to engage their boats. Thinking some friend would reach the ship to receive me, I waited patiently for a considerable time, but found out that the excitement consequent upon the Prince's arrival had been so great among our countrymen, that there was little chance of the arrival of any of my friends. I therefore took to one of the steam tugs with all my traps, but had no sooner sat down, than a ship's boat with four natives rowing, and a Hindoo servant dressed in a peculiar form, with a belt across his shoulder and a brass plate upon his breast, with the words, "Findlay, Muir & Company" upon it, hailed me. A letter was handed to me by this native, and, by the contents, I found I was consigned to his care, by my young friend Robert Ewing, and the instructions of the note were to follow the servant and take up quarters at Mr. Ewing's bungalow, which had been prepared for me. This entirely relieved me from anxiety, and getting on shore each passenger was so excited in looking after himself, and the bustle at the custom house was so great, that, though personally I had nothing to declare, difficulty was found in receiving attention from anyone; and then in the midst of the broiling sun, the scarcity of carriages consequent upon the Prince's arrival was another unlooked-for annoyance. I took it, however, very coolly, having had various experiences

of the same annoyance, and at last found a man with a carriage, who agreed to carry us to Mr. Ewing's house on Malabar Hill. On reaching the magazine of the custom house I found a letter from Mr. John Russell, stating he had considerably engaged a bearer for me. This was a native Indian of about forty years of age, of short stature, and spare body, with a good head and intelligent looking, who spoke English pretty well, and I engaged him at the rate of 15 rupees a month, and he feeding himself. His name was Joan, from the Kutch district, so I dubbed him "Don Juan" for the time being. I found on arriving at Kate Ville, on Malabar Hill (it was curious that I should be consigned to a bungalow bearing your name), that Mr. Langley, a lawyer in Bombay, lived along with Mr. Ewing. There were a lot of visitors—Captain and Mrs. Bell, and a Captain Martin, all pleasant people—so I found myself for the time very comfortable. I telegraphed to my daughter, and arranged to meet Dr. Hill at Bankipore on the 19th. I thus had five days clear to visit this most interesting city, and as good luck would have it, another friend, Mr. Douglas, whose relations I knew at home, sent me his carriage, for use during my residence in Bombay. Mr. Douglas was absent with his family at Poonah. I was thus prevented from seeing him, but acknowledged his kindness by letter.

On the 11th I paid a visit to the city. I was greatly struck by the splendid buildings it contains,

the large open spaces for driving and walking, ornamented with numerous trees, the singularly Oriental character of the city, and the variety of types of Indian people, lazily walking along the streets, and engaged in the bazaar with bargaining, and with merchandise. In the evening we drove to the fort of Bombay, and found a large space occupied, as the sun went down, with well-dressed natives, and a large number of ladies and females gorgeously dressed with diamonds and gold ornaments. These were chiefly of the Parsee type, a class of people in India almost wholly confined to Bombay and its neighbourhood. They were originally settled in this city and neighbourhood by emigration from Persia, and are a caste by themselves, unlike either the Hindoo or Mohamedan, and although a large society in this district, they are looked upon as pariahs in many other parts of India.

The Parsees are by far the most intelligent-looking of any of the Indian people, excellent heads for business, pursuing commerce with great ability. Many of them, it is believed, command the largest fortunes in India. Their theology includes the worship of the Sun and of Fire, and the rites and obsequies of the dead are pursued in a manner different almost from any other nation. On a field on one of the greatest heights in Bombay, and near to the house in which I lived, there is erected a large strong tower of considerable height and size, and out of the reach of every one, surmounted by a grid-iron, near

which the funeral rites of the deceased belonging to the caste are performed. These are concluded by leaving the body upon the grid-iron, whereupon various types of wild birds assemble and consume the dead body. These scavenger birds are very numerous throughout all India, and indeed are absolutely necessary to keep down the fetid atmosphere which would otherwise cover the land. This mode of performing obsequies for the dead, is quite inimical to the views of other natives of India, but has been pursued by the Parsees during all their residence in this part of the country. The Hindoos throughout Bombay and this portion of India carry out another mode with their dead. In the country districts they make a pile of wood, and burn the body, putting the ashes in an urn or tomb. The Hindu population of Bombay and neighbourhood is so large, that artificial means are taken, and a large building near the seaboard has been erected, with furnaces for consuming the dead, after their religious rites have been performed.

The excitement in Bombay, with the presence of the Prince and his suite, is very great. Large numbers of native chiefs, rajahs, and maharajahs, have come here to wait upon His Royal Highness, and exhibit their grandeur, some of them with an immense number of followers—in some instances so great that at Malabar Hill they have encamped with their horses and men under cover, and are living in the woods in the open air. This presents an interesting picture of Indian

life, and rarely to be seen but upon occasions such as the present. Some of the Parsees have let their houses to the native princes, and these are ornamented by numerous flags and other emblems of their state; and in the evening they have the houses, and the lands around, illuminated with coloured lamps, rendering the scene in this part of Bombay something like Fairyland. Many of these princes I have passed driving in their state carriages, some of them with their statesmen and friends; others in solitary grandeur, with their retainers outside, or following, as appendages to the suite. The most conspicuous of all these natives was the Prime Minister of the Nizam, well known as Sir Salar Jung. He is a man of commanding appearance, with a large and active brain, and dresses in a much simpler style, than others of greater wealth and position; but he keeps up the state of his master, the young Nizam, with great dignity. He rides in a handsome carriage, drawn by four Arabian horses, and with four foot-runners in white garb preceding the carriage, two horsemen on each side of the carriage, and behind the vehicle six mounted hussars with pikes or spears. Accompanying the carriage there are two others filled with members of his court.

I did not care about running after the scenes at which the Prince of Wales presided. I often saw him in England, and therefore was rather desirous to get out of the way. But the magnificence of the ornaments, illuminations, and the exhibition of the cortége of the

various princes of India, was a sight to be remembered, and which few who were present will ever see again.

This being Sunday, 14th Nov., 1875, we passed the day very quietly, and Mr. M., a military engineer, who had been staying at Kate Ville, and I had long conversations, about his large experience of the frontiers of India. He does not believe in the truthfulness of any of the native castes, and says he only finds out facts by cross-questioning. This untruthfulness arises from the servitude which the natives have lain under so long prior to the English rule, and through misunderstanding our desire to govern all castes with justice. This gentleman has been in service in portions of India bordering upon our rule. Beyond the Punjab the natives are so savage and exacting that Europeans are not permitted to go within nine miles of their territory. In these untravelled portions of India, Mr. M. says that the Affghans, Gourkas, and Hill tribes make the best soldiers, and when trained and drilled are contented with our rule. He thinks that the caste system gives rise to great misery on the part of the females, and many of the women die from medical men of the district not being permitted to enter the house. Mr. M. gave an instance of one case, in which a poor woman was suffering from disease of a limb, and life could only be saved by cutting a portion of it off. The duty was done by the surgeon standing outside the house, and the operation performed by laying the limb outside the window, the

operator having seen only a portion of the woman, and been unable to test her state from the pulse.

The native servants at Kate Ville were much alarmed in the morning by the constant barking of the dogs about the house, and the cause was soon found out by the native boys, in a large cobra making its appearance, and giving rise to a fight with sticks for its immediate death. It seems to have had its nest near to the bungalow, and had been brought to maturity by the summer heat and rainy season. The cobra is found to give the most fatal bite of any other serpent. This was my first experience of the dangers of the tropics from the lower animals. The next arose from another pest of the east, for in bed last night, notwithstanding the closely drawn curtains, I had some experience of the mosquitoes.

We had a discussion on the work doing by my friend, Miss Mary Carpenter, in India. All of our party admitted her zeal, and her ability for the good work, but said that, except among the Parsee population in the Bombay portion of India, there was considerable disbelief in her disinterested labours among other castes. The Brahmin and the Faqueer priests are against the education of women. The betrothals of marriage that take place, when the parties are between five and six years of age, make men indifferent when they get to manhood for the education, not only of their wives, but of the female portion of the population. They are also quite indifferent to the

birth of females, and such children seldom live. Our next subject, at the bungalow this afternoon, turned to the railways now being actively promoted all over India. Every one spoke with great interest of the extension of this means of conveyance, and although the present Viceroy does not proceed so fast as the people wish, there is a disposition to increase the railway system in all parts of India. From motives of economy the present gauge of railways, which is five and a half feet, has been in some portions of the country changed to what is called the metre gauge, which narrows the breadth to three and a half feet. This change is creating considerable dissatisfaction, and when traffic increases, the working expenses will go on augmenting, and increased boiler and engine power will be required, to carry both goods and passenger traffic.

*15th November, 1875.*—Next morning I rested for the time before taking my journey to Jubblepore—the trains only starting in the afternoon in order to avoid the heat. I had now to take up the services of “Don Juan,” my bearer, who had nothing to do while at Kate Ville, as “the boys,” as the natives are called, had done all duty for me, and notwithstanding doing so, never asked or looked for “Backsheesh.” Juan promised to turn out a good man. He took possession of all my traps, and gave me an inventory written in his native language. He began, however, of being afraid of going so far into the interior of

India, and as his clothing was scanty, begged I would give him some covering to keep him warm. Accordingly I bought him a large native rug which covered his whole body at night. With Mr. Douglas's carriage, I went down, and had another survey of the whole city, leaving "Don Juan" to take care of my traps, and to meet me at a certain station of the railway. I had a very pleasant drive through the whole of the native city, around the Government and public offices, the splendid statue erected to our Queen, and other monuments erected to the memory of well-known natives of the country. The *tout ensemble* of the city and suburbs pleased me very much, situated on the plain, backed by the Malabar Hill and the sea beyond, with a magnificent bay and deep water to receive the shipping of all nations. Nothing could be finer than the scene presented, and gave evidence that at no very distant day Bombay will become a greatly increased emporium of trade, and of inward and outward commerce for a large portion of the Indian empire. Having bid good-bye to my friends, I reached the station in time to catch the train, and was gratified to find Mr. Higginbotham, the gentleman alluded to in the former part of the journal, was again to be my fellow-passenger. We got into a Calcutta carriage, and planted ourselves as well as the heat would allow us, with no one with us, for the night. We were not long, however, in discovering, as we passed into the higher districts, and latterly into the

Ghaut mountains, that the cold became intense, and having only the clothes on we had worn at Bombay, we felt it impossible to keep heat within our bodies the whole night. We now rose to a considerable height in passing through the Ghaut mountains, a great range through which the railway was cut, consisting of volcanic and trap rock. As we got to the summit, the country we passed through seemed to consist alternately of jungle, grazing, and cropping lands, reminding one of the great American desert, without the river which passes through that desert. There appeared a great want of timber in some portions of the country. The cattle appeared to be pretty numerous, but only one elephant, and no wild animals were seen. On the right hand of our train, in proceeding east, an extensive range of high mountains appeared ; and when nearing Jubblepore, a secondary range below the high one was seen. This, in all countries I have visited, gives evidence of minerals existing alongside of the lower range of mountains ; and I believe this holds good in the country we are passing through, as coal, of an inferior character however, is now being wrought, and is supplying the locomotives of the G. I. P. Railway. Looking from the railway into the extensive plains which we now passed, there appeared to be a soil of considerable richness and depth, and equal to any of the soils which I observed in travelling through America. Having reached the station of Jubblepore about half-past nine in the evening, we were soon joined by

Major Waterfield, a gentleman who had been asked to look after me when arriving. We were conveyed to the Great Northern Hotel; and in consequence of the variety of climates we had passed through, and the continued cold in the air which we had experienced, a chill came over me, which was partially restrained by resting an additional hour or two, sponging the body, and taking only light food. Although we were in a tropical climate, and would imagine a traveller needed little else than slight clothing, it is found all over India necessary to have sufficient extra clothing, to meet the difficulties we found ourselves subject to in passing from Bombay.

*17th November.*—The thermometer next morning marked 76° in the shade. After breakfasting, we sallied through the native town, and found the working people sitting in their open-window houses, working in various metals, including brass, copper, and iron. The type of this city appears more active among common people than what was found in Bombay, and in passing through the bazaar the complexion of the native appeared darker than we had hitherto seen.

Jubblepore has increased in importance, in connection with the junction of the two great railway systems traversing the continent. It stands about fourteen hundred and fifty-six feet above the sea, and near to the northern Ghauts we have already alluded to. It is the seat of a commissioner, is a military post, and has a variety of factories for the

making lac dye, opium, and jute. There are one or two good schools, and a large one of industry. One thing remarkable here is a prison for the confinement of natives, who have been found guilty of Thuggism. This crime was only confined to some parts of India. It is supposed that it originally had a sect of such criminals devoted to Kali. In travelling through some portions of the country they sometimes decoy natives, and employ women for this purpose. The time having arrived for perpetrating the crime, the innocent is laid hold of, and a silk handkerchief tied round his windpipe. After being robbed (and sometimes they do not rob), the body is buried, spades and other implements being carried to effect this purpose, and the ground carefully placed and put in order, so that it is a work of great difficulty finding out the spot where the crime has been committed. The Thugs then proceed on their journey until the next victim comes in their way. It was only lately that the leaders of this sect were discovered, and on its becoming known to the Government, it was resolved to stamp it out, by confining all parties imagined to be engaged in the crimes in a central prison, along with their children, and they are now employed there in making tents and carpets to repay the cost of maintaining them. It is believed that this meritorious act has put an end to the crime.

We found at the hotel at Jubblepore some Englishmen newly arrived, one of whom took our fancy greatly; his name is Deacon, but beyond that he revealed

nothing about himself. He seemed to have travelled everywhere, knew everything about movements in England, matters political and convivial, was a member of some of the best clubs in London, and dined occasionally at the Reform Club; he was on his way to Cashmere to join three other friends in hunting and shooting wild animals. He had a good head, a bilious temperament, and the posterior lobe of his brain pretty large. He shewed us a method of employing the mind of one person against another in Mesmerism; he took a florin unknown to the party to be operated upon, and hid the piece in a portion of the room, he then placed his breathing at the back part of the gentleman's head, being the upper part of the spine, and continued this breathing till the party made a movement in the direction of the concealed coin; it took a little time to carry out the experiment, and although the party did not find the position of the coin, it became clearly evident that if long continued it would have been found out. Deacon says that this plan of moving the mind of one party into that of another has been shown to be successful in some parts of Germany, and he indicated that he had seen it done.

We now left this thriving city about eleven at night and reached Allahabad about half-past seven next morning. The night being dark we saw little or nothing of the country through which we passed, saving the mountains in the distance, and the north-

west provinces. We proceeded to the Great Northern Hotel, which we found to be a fine large house and had very fair accommodation. My friend Higginbotham left us here to my great regret; he was passing up country to Agra and Delhi, but having telegraphed to James Hill I would meet him next day, I could not accompany Higginbotham, so we had to part, and I must here record that in all my travelling experience I seldom have met with a companion so intelligent, genial, and trustworthy—a fine specimen of the higher class of men now resident in Australia.

After breakfasting, I took a drive through the native city and bazaars, but found that these were of the same type as other parts of India. This city is the capital of the North-west Provinces, and is the seat of the Governor. In approaching the city you require to pass across a railway bridge over the Jumna river where it joins the Ganges and forms one of the chief rivers in India; the Ganges at this point increasing in importance by the immense flow of the Jumna. This is one of the most marvellous rivers in India—its length is eight hundred miles, and its origin is the peaks of the Himalaya Mountains; it seemed to me broader than the Mississippi at St. Louis, where that river is joined by the Missouri, and somewhat like the Po in Italy. The fort which is built upon the margin of the Ganges is a work of very great importance; it is one of the largest fortresses to be found in India, is capable of keeping within its walls

thirty thousand stand of arms, has cost about one million seven hundred and fifty thousand pounds, and is considered now to be impregnable.

There are various tombs and mausoleums around the city, some of which are visited by pilgrims, and are said to have a subterranean passage reaching to the holy city of Benares. On one of these tombs there is an inscription supposed to be in Sanscrit, but of so old a date that it has hitherto baffled the best scholars to translate.

*19th November.*—I proceeded next morning to the trysting place, at Bankipore, of my son-in-law, James Hill, and on reaching the station, faithful to his time, I found him. I was for a time alone in the railway carriage to Bankipore, but with usual good luck, I fell in with a young engineer officer who had been selected to join his regiment, then on their way to subdue the treachery committed at Perak, on the Straits of Malacca, by the murder of the British resident. On reaching the junction of the railway leading to Benares, we found two portions of the soldiers proceeding to Calcutta. As I am always on the look out for types of the natives of India, I found a class among the troops on the railway, regarding whom I exclaimed to my fellow-traveller, "Why, these are Chinese!" He interrupted me by saying, "No; these are Ghourkas, some of the hardiest and best soldiers of the native tribes of India." In their appearance they had large heads, broad

shoulders, and were small in stature. They belong to a caste from the kingdom of Nepaul, and are a cross between the Chinese and the Thibet people. They are in that country said to be the best class of soldiers, and being friendly to British rule, their numbers should be increased among the native troops. I parted with my young military friend at Bankipore, wishing him success in his strife with the natives, and that, I afterwards learnt, they soon accomplished. Accompanying Mr. Hill, there were several of his native servants, who took possession of the luggage and myself, and immediately got me into a palankin supported and carried by four men, and accompanied by a like number to relieve each other. The head man among the natives placed my traps in a bullock-cart, and we thus reached the Ganges, only a short distance from the station, under torch-lights, carried by the natives. We got on board of a river boat tied alongside of a steamer, sailed to the other side of the Ganges, where we landed again upon an island of sand, and reached another river called the Gunduk, which we had to cross in a country boat. Throughout this journey I kept my place, lying in the palankin, and reaching the opposite shore of these two rivers, we ascended to a place called Hadgipore, and there were introduced to a species of hotel, known throughout India as the Government bungalow, a sort of country caravansary, planted by the Government in the various portions of India to supply the place of hotels. These houses are scantily

furnished, but are usually kept clean, and the food received from the servants stationed by the Government is usually of a fair character. Thus ended my experience for the present of travelling by palankin, and now commenced travelling difficulties of rather an extraordinary character. The article into which I was now introduced is called a buffalo cart, and is set upon springs; it is drawn by two animals of the country. The traveller is shut into the heart of the machine and lies there still, and while he is carried along, the animals go at a moderate pace over unmade roads, the jolting of which, even with the springs, makes a man feel as if he were travelling through purgatory. I found it impossible to bear this mode of conveyance, and at one of the stages on the road a change was again made by using the palankin. In this method I was carried along to the bungalow of Mr. M'Ewan, an indigo planter, and found him and his friends just sitting down to dinner, so we were fortunate in getting thus rapidly and pleasantly into the society of the interior of India. Our host received us with great kindness, though I, at least, was an entire stranger. Here we rested for the night, and in starting the following morning had another experience of Indian travel. Mr. Hill had provided a dog-cart. This seemed to be a great improvement in my previous experience of travelling, though another difficulty occurred in exposure to the sun; but with my Indian toppee and a double covered umbrella I managed to avoid the dangerous rays.

We moved on in miserable roads and through great plains of cultivated land and a well-wooded country, passing one gentleman's country seat after another, until we reached Barrha, the residence of our friend Mr. Begg and his family, by whom I was received with the greatest kindness and hospitality. Barrha is one of the seats of the Hill family—is a large and elegant house, in fact it might be denominated an Indian palace, in the midst of a fine wooded and beautiful country, the park around the house reaching to upwards of a thousand acres in extent. It was a great pleasure on arriving here to find my daughter Agnes, waiting to receive me in great good health and with her usual joyous temperament. After a night's rest I felt very well, and found the heat at this place, though great during the day, was cool at night and cold in the morning.

This place was the first residence of the Hill family in India. They have now been in this district of Tirhoot and Champaran for four generations. The founder of the family, Mr. Henry Hill, lived to the age of seventy-five, and is buried in a tomb surrounded by a consecrated parterre of ground near to his own mansion. The large range of well-wooded land around Barrha is used for the growth and feeding of cattle employed in the management of the estates. There is a private drive, or, as it is called, a race course, through the grounds, well laid out and reaching several miles in extent. It is only partially connected with the main

roads, and forms a charming carriage drive, and a course for riding. One of the works for the manufacture of indigo is situated a short distance from the house, where a large number of the Hindoos are employed. The extent of the Hill possessions throughout this portion of India is something quite remarkable. The family are among the largest planters of indigo in India. The lands under them extend to fifteen miles in length, and are twenty-eight broad. A large portion of the soil is of the finest alluvial, and the whole of those portions under the cultivation of indigo is wrought with the same care as the gardens in our own country. The area of their cultivation of indigo reaches over 20,000 acres. The native workmen employed on the lands and at the works range in number from thirty to forty thousand. Many of this large number have families dependent on them, and others have none. They thus give employment and sustenance to this large portion of the population, which, if the works were idle or interfered with, would render large numbers of them indigent. Besides the mansion of Barrha, there are two similar ones, though not so large, at Seraha and at Turcouleah. At the latter named place my son and daughter reside. We left the hospitable residence of Mr. Begg, and reached Seraha, about eight miles distant, having a river to cross before we got there. We found this residence on a rising ground, situated near to a lake, in a splendid situation, and surrounded with a park even larger than that at

Barrha—one field alone reaching to nine hundred acres, which was then all prepared for the planting of indigo. We had a most hearty reception from Mr. Robert Hill, and sat down to dinner with no less than fifteen of a party, three of whom were ladies. The gentlemen, who were the guests of Mr. Hill, were all connected with farming in India, and seemed both intelligent and talented. On the morning after our arrival Mr. Hill had provided materials for a large shooting party, some of which consisted, to my amusement, of four elephants, with howdahs for the sportsmen to sit upon. The sportsmen had only to drive about three miles into the jungle to find sport. The reeds in the jungle were so high that the tops reached above the elephants. The party started some wild pigs, but the grass prevented them from even seeing them. Their presence was only known by the noise of moving about in the jungle. They did not thus get using a lance at these exciting animals, but they arrived before tiffin with a few partridges and a hare, the former being more beautiful birds than those of this country. We now assembled for the joyous meal of Hazaree, or tiffin, and sat down, the same number as last night, and after enjoying the good things of India, and the universal tipple of beer, the younger portion of the party turned out to the exciting sport of polo playing. Six gentlemen, mounted on Cashmere ponies, took places in a large portion of the park set apart for grazing. The sport could be witnessed from the

verandah of the house. We had thus an opportunity of seeing this game played in the country from which it took its origin, and done in a manner superior to what is performed in our country. The excitement of both the riders and the ponies became very great, but the palm of the victory was soon seen to fall to Mr. Robert Hill, one of the best of players of this game. It appears the gentlemen in this neighbourhood are famous for this kind of sport, and are professed not to yield to any other class in Bengal. After the heat of this game, the gentlemen soon retired to the luxuriant operation of the bath, and thus ended the amusement for the day. We now had to prepare for leaving, and expected to reach Turcouleah, a distance of twenty miles, in time for a late dinner. The bullock cart and palankin were now dispensed with, and James Hill's dog-cart carried us with comparative speed. The roads, however, were of a character which, in American language, is called "corduroy;" and jolting on the passage shook one into such a frame of body as made dinner desirable as soon as possible. Although this ride was only twenty miles, it took five horses in relay to get over it. In our journey we passed through Mutihari, a civil station with a considerable number of European residents. The native city and bazaars were of the same type we have formerly described, none of the castes having much idea of architecture or comfort. The bungalows, however, of the Europeans were large, and some of them well situated and

appointed. We now had about eight miles to drive, and reached Turcouleah about half-past six in the afternoon, but the sun having gone down, darkness prevented the place being shown. After good refreshment and a sound night's sleep, I now reached the end of my journey for the time being, so that having left Southampton on the 14th October, and reached Turcouleah on the evening of the 24th November, it appears I have taken forty-one days to complete this portion of my labours. No doubt the time might have been shortened to a considerable extent, had I pushed on without much stopping, but the delay gave me the opportunity of enjoying so much society in a new country as to make up for any loss of time. On the morning of the 25th November I took an opportunity of leisurely viewing and taking stock of this excellent residence. It is not so large as Barrha or Seraha, but the house is most comfortable, well planned and furnished—the rooms large and lofty, all upon one floor, and thoroughly protected from the sun. It stands in a park around the house, extending to about two hundred and fifty acres, ornamented with large timber of a unique character, not much seen in our own country. It has in the rear accommodation for all sorts of animals necessary for the table, and with gardens both of flowers, fruit, and vegetables. The grounds altogether are most charming in their appearance, and one requires nothing but health to enjoy such a residence. The productions of the gardens

are varied and extraordinary. The flower garden gives a fresh supply daily, to ornament the tables of the drawing and dining rooms. The vegetable garden extends to about four acres of ground, and include in its productions potatoes, peas, cauliflower, tomato, pomella, arrowroot, asparagus, turnips, apples, and pineapples, a whole range of plantains, cocoa nuts in profusion, cresses, and strawberries, citron, Chili pepper, and a plentiful supply of white and black grapes of a large character. There is a tank in the garden filled with water, which is covered at the top to prevent absorption by the sun, and in this receptacle wild teal are kept and fed, for consumption at the table. It is amusing to find in this country how cheap this article of food is. The natives catch them in large quantities, and bring them to the house, giving sometimes sixteen, and at others twenty-one for a rupee of the nominal value of two shillings. The servants employed in the establishment are all native Hindoos or Mohamedans, and many of them have been so long with the family as to have grown grey in the service.

We are now resting from the fatigues of the journey, and though a little out of sorts, I am made most comfortable, and am glad to see James and Agnes in good health, and as happy as the day is long. We are now in the midst of a tropical country, not far from the jungle, where all sorts of wild animals are to be found in profusion. They come only stealthily as the evening approaches, and suddenly

cross your path, when you are enjoying the evening on the verandah in the open air. The animal most familiar to all residents in this country is the jackal ; he hides in the jungle the greater part of the day, but as the sun goes down, he is found nearing the ordinary habitations in search of offal of all descriptions, he being, along with other wild birds and beasts, the scavengers of the country ; and without their presence many parts of India might become uninhabitable, in fact, something akin to a pest house. The jackal is one of the most harmless of these animals, and runs from you the moment your approach becomes near. What makes this animal noxious to a new-comer is the singular noise, and howl he makes at night, beginning in a low key and rising to a high pitch, something resembling the sounds of cats of house areas of English towns, but very much louder, and more varied in tone. The cultivation of the country has thrown the tiger altogether out of this area, but the wolf is still to be seen among the adjoining jungles. While sitting in the verandah one evening one of these animals walked right before us, within a few yards, looking out for the small dogs which belong to the house, and had been barking and running about. He soon, however, took his departure; but as James had not his gun ready we had only to wait until next evening for his return ; but his cunning saw there was little hope for plunder, so he never came. The fox is another amusing animal.

He is like his fellow in England in form and tail, but is only one-half his size, and unless for amusement appears less cunning than the English tribe; he also comes out in the evening, and amuses himself among the shrubbery in front of the house, and he lets the small dogs run after him, jinking them with the same swiftness and ability, as his English type. Another scavenger is the pariah dog, chiefly kept by the natives, but he runs wild in many parts of the country, and often being indifferently fed, either dies or goes mad. This dog is not allowed to come within the precincts of Turcouleah, but when he does so, he is instantly shot, and it is then seen that another scavenger makes its appearance in the shape of the eagle and other birds of prey common in this country, who scent the carriion in a manner quite indescribable by any one in India.

*Saturday, November 27th.*—We are now got into comparative quiet, and spend the day in reading. This residence is so situated that we have a continued succession of visitors, passing either through to the North-west or South-east, and as there are neither public conveyances, nor private carriages let out, the traveller is dependent upon the favour of his friends to lend him horses for his conveyance, and this makes Turcouleah a resting-place for weary travellers, and a pleasant residence for its inmates. Scarcely two days pass without our having some friends in the house paying a temporary visit. We

are thus like the travellers of old in our own country, when little was known even of stage coaches. It was then the custom to receive intelligence from various localities, both of friends, and of the news of the day, and without such similar reunions our residence among the natives would prove rather solitary. It becomes also peculiarly interesting to a traveller, as he is thus enabled to obtain reliable information from the visitor regarding this locality and other portions of India—information which a tourist finds it difficult in his movements to obtain. Our first visitors were Mr. Gibbon and his sister who stopped two days with us. They are both intelligent and cultivated. Mr. Gibbon is a gentleman who has been trained in the cultivation of indigo, and is also a tea planter, having a garden of considerable extent in Cachar, and an experimental garden in the hills due north of Tirhoot, on the borders of Nepaul. Mr. Gibbon is on his journey to the tea gardens, and would take about three weeks in travelling before reaching his destination. The country in which his gardens are situate rises about six thousand feet above the sea, and makes it thus difficult to reach; but in the journey down, time is saved by the steamers on the large and rapid running river called Bhramaputra.

Mr. Gibbon has a great opinion of the cultivation of tea, but from its being found so solitary an occupation for Europeans, it is sometimes very difficult to get proper men to undertake the duty of manage-

ment and care of the gardens. Many of them having few resources after work to fall back upon in their solitude, take to drink native or imported liquor. But I understand, as the speculation is improving, and the area of cultivation extending, a better class of men are gradually being introduced into the districts, and as the society increases and improves, there will be a larger provision of healthy amusement and recreation &c. It is also difficult to induce natives to emigrate to so high a latitude, and when resident there to keep them to their work. Mr. Gibbon thinks well however of this new mode of increasing the productions of India, and improving the condition of the native population, and has no doubt there will be a large increase to the cultivation of this important plant.

*November 30th.*—We are now situated in the large districts of Tirhoot, Champaram, and Sarum, and amid Hindoo and Mohamedan population ; no white man to be seen in the whole of this district with the exception of a handful of Europeans and Eurasians. This portion of India comprises between four and five millions of people, all employed upon the land or in trading in the villages. They appear to be a quiet and industrious people, having their amusements, their numerous cottages, and their visiting, like other portions of our own country.

The Hindoo caste is a type altogether different from the opinion entertained of him by many in our own country. He is in appearance like a gentleman, and has nothing of the coarse aspect or features of the

African ; his tastes appear simple, and his demeanour respectful. Although his labour is not efficient, his pay is small, and his living costs little. In fact he is the descendant of a race who, long anterior to our Christian era, and to the appearance of the Mohamedan in India, held sway in these lands, when the population of our own country, are supposed to have been painted savages. The Mohamedan on the other hand is of a type different from the Hindoo, he is higher in stature, stronger in form, with a greater capacity for work, and a head of a more angular form than the Hindoo ; in short, one thinks he is not to be trusted with the same confidence as the Hindoo. The bane of both castes arises in their ignorance, and from the influence exercised over them by the Brahmin and Faqueer priests.

In the midst of the population of the districts above alluded to, I wish to record that there are no poor. The caste system, which is complete among them, takes care of the young if bereft of their parents, the grown-up and middle-aged work for their living, and the aged till death are taken care of, either by the family or by the castes. Natives out of employment, are cared for in like manner, and thus, except during famine which sometimes visits this district, the whole community is held together. It was at one time supposed, that these castes would not associate together in public, but when the railway system got into full operation this view was found to be fallacious. The

natives of all castes now crowd the railways, and the native traffic is increasing with great rapidity. In the carriage of passengers, ninety-five per cent of the traffic is third-class, the five per cent being the Europeans, carried by first and second class carriages. The knowledge of this return is of great importance for the future government of India, for it clearly follows, that if these people meet and travel together on a friendly footing, they would readily do so in their villages and throughout the country, but for the influence which the Brahmin and Faqueer priests of the present day exercise upon them; and it appears to me that nothing short of a system of elementary education for the poor, will be able to overcome the increasing influence which these priests have upon the daily life of the natives.

Looking upon the enormous population with which India is now covered, elementary education becomes a question of great Indian national importance. It appears from a return lately made by the Government, that the population of British India comprises upwards of one hundred and ninety millions of all castes, and when the feudatory states are included in this return, it appears that, under British rule, there are now two hundred and thirty-nine millions of souls. To show how closely in some portions of India this population is packed, it appears that in Bengal the residents per square mile reached nearly four hundred persons, while those of the North-west provinces

reached over four hundred per square mile. Among these people it is supposed there are no less than twenty-three languages spoken, exclusive of the dialect of the hill tribes or aborigines; and of the religion of this immense mass under British rule, there appear to be one hundred and forty millions of Hindoos, about forty millions of Mohamedans, and nine million Buddhists, Janis, Christians, Jews, and Parsees; and the whole country is governed by about fifty-nine thousand British-born subjects, and sixty thousand of military of all arms. The native troops in the service of the Government number about 130,000.

It may thus be seen how difficult in such circumstances is our continued possession of this great country. Were it not for the education, training, energy, and pluck of our countrymen, the whole might have been wrested from us during the Mutiny of 1857. But the immense increase of the railway system throughout the main arteries of the country, and the continued development of connecting links and lines of railway, with the powerful aid derived from the telegraph, renders the danger of such an outbreak as occurred in 1857 unlikely; but on the other hand we are bound, as we ought to be, to raise the condition of the population by increased educational appliances. It seems therefore to follow, when the masses by such education may be raised to a higher platform, that a much larger force than sixty thousand European soldiers will be needed to keep the

peace with such an enormous population. It is stated that, since the law for elementary education in Bengal was introduced by Sir George Campbell, no less than ten thousand new schools have come into existence, and it is singular to find the simplicity of manner, in which these are conducted in some portions of the interior of the country. I became acquainted with one of the Civil Service Commissioners for Bengal, a gentleman who had been long at the work, and thoroughly intelligent and well informed. He came to Turcouleah and pitched his tent in the compound near to my bedroom. He informed me that he had been instructed to examine in his district all the schools then in operation, and throughout the whole he could only find one book for teaching, and this I saw exemplified in the school of the village near which we lived. The master assembled the children outside of his house, and to prevent the sun from reaching either the children or himself, had erected a bamboo awning, around which in the shade the children sat. In front of the master was a large space of fine alluvial soil, nearly white and of a finer pile than sand ; on this tablet was drawn the alphabet of the Hindostani language, and from this the children were taught the alphabet. In like manner simple words were written and learned, and in the same way the arithmetical figures of the language were placed and taught by the schoolmaster, the whole reminding one of the teaching, in the earlier periods of Christianity, by Jesus writing

on the sand. It appears that many natives in this manner become very apt at writing and figuring, but are not very able to read their own language.

In the court which was held by my friend the Commissioner, he had assembled the chief men of the villages around his beat to inaugurate a new system of police under the Government. The names and addresses of the villagers were all taken down. They came into the court in batches, and I found these head men, as they are called, both athletic and tall, but thoroughly ignorant—not one of them, I was told, being able to read or write, except a native who was called the accountant of the village. Several of the parties sat down outside of the tent in groups belonging to each village, and numbering altogether about one hundred and twenty. They were all well dressed in their native garb, and seemed most respectful to my friend the Commissioner. One old man among the lot was pointed out to me. He was scantily clad, and with a deeper cast of dye in his skin, but well formed, with small hands and feet, and very like a decayed gentleman. He had a cord passed over his right shoulder, and across his breast (which was quite bare), and fastened upon his left side. This was a man of the Brahmin type. The cord indicated he was a man of high caste, and before it could be placed in the method worn by him, a great Brahmin religious ceremony preceded the ownership. It occurred to me at the time,

as all ancient customs appear to originate in the East, whether our system of decorating a nobleman by the Queen, by passing a sash, instead of a cord, across the shoulder, had not taken its origin from this country. This native was a quiet man, and seemed to be very much respected by those around. As I was now surrounded by many types of natives, it may be interesting here to record the politeness given to a European, as the natives approach him. When he comes near he allows his turban to remain on his head, but takes off his shoes, and with a reverend salaam bows, and passes on. Then, again, upon entering a house upon business or otherwise, the shoes of all parties are taken off; but the man of superior caste steps forward first, and upon the higher portion of the steps of the stair places his shoes before entering, and in like manner the next in rank on the step below. In this way I have seen five castes enter a house, and place the shoes each below the other. On some occasions where great respect is intended to be shown, upon a European approaching, the native dismounts from his pony, drops his shoes on the ground, makes his salaam, and mounts again.

In the grounds of Turcouleah there is a drive only crossing the public road once, extending to about three and a half miles. It is popularly called the race course, and is used by the family for driving and riding in the early morning, and in the afternoon, just as the sun goes down in Eastern splendour. The ride

passes through a fine cultivated plain, ornamented with timber, and with a jungle adjoining one of the small rivers ; the scenery around forms one great alluvial plain, but in the distance to the north is seen the lower range of the Himalayas. The kingdom of Nepaul intervenes, and then you are in sight of one of the most magnificent panoramas to be seen in any part of the world—the Himalaya Mountains, with a range of several hundred miles, rises in magnificence before the eye, and is marked in the setting sun with various hues of colour, the heights and tops appearing even more distinct. After the sun is nearly set, the highest mountain in the world, Mount Everett, then comes out in all its glory, with its snowy peaks and modest companions, forming a sight the recollection of which seldom passes from the mind of the spectator. This drive was always taken immediately before dinner, and several of the villages of work-people were passed through, showing us the inner life of natives in this remote and internal portion of India. Here they squat in front of their bamboo cottages, around a fire of wood, the whole family enjoying themselves before taking to rest, the appliances for light not being used. The interior furniture is of the most scanty character, and the food consumed generally cooked outside the cottage. In the area there is almost always a shed for the cow, covering for the goats, and often a separate yard for the poultry. On the bamboo roof of the cottage, formed more for the exclusion of heat than of

rain, grows an Indian vegetable for family consumption, and there is often a large plantain at the side of the house, valued for its excellent fruit. The native has a patch of ground, which is cultivated with other vegetables, and especially with a pea of an excellent saccharine character called "dahl," or the *Revalenta Arabica* sold in England. With these appliances, and the wages of his daily labour, the native appears to enjoy the life of the country, in which he is planted. There is sometimes a pig attached to his family, but it is not a usual thing in this portion of India, and is only kept by the lowest of the Hindoo castes.

Among the native cottages in this drive there are some of the work-people of a different type from either the Hindoo or Mohamedan, and are immigrants from the lower portion of the Himalayas. They are of a lower caste than the latter, are much blacker in their appearance, and somewhat different from the Bengalese. They squat in isolated portions of the country, and seldom mix with the other castes. They are excellent workers, are employed in the interior of the indigo factories, and although the other castes are sometimes out of employment a portion of the year, these hill tribes are found to be so efficient that they obtain work throughout the whole year. The cranial type of this hill tribe is inferior to either that of the Hindoo or Mohamedan, but the perceptive portion of the brain being better developed, and his original birthplace being in a colder country, he works better

and more continuously than those born upon the plains. The families of these tribes have been workers in Turcouleah and other factories for about seventy years. Looking, however, at the Hindoo and Mohamedan, you see at once they belong to a race superior to the hill man.

We often hear, in this country, of these castes being called "niggers" and other inappropriate names. No one who travels in this country can confirm this statement. The Hindoo in this portion of the country is the type of a race not inferior to what is found in European countries. He, in reality, with his ignorance and all his faults, is like a gentleman. He does not work so hard as the European, and that may arise partly from his food and partly from his pay. He is kind and attentive to his family and his one wife; and although the females are never seen, and no European or Mohamedan has access to his house, he is courteous and polite to all Europeans approaching him. The continued despotism under which he has so long lived, makes it sometimes impossible to get him directly to speak the truth. In the question of evidence in controversy he watches with avidity what you would like him to say, and then with his joined uplifted hands says what he thinks is agreeable to you. This is one of the great difficulties in the management of the whole races of India. Cross-questioning is the usual plan taken to get at what is in his inner mind, and this is pursued with great adroitness, by people who have

lived long among them. The educated Hindoo, however, is for the present a rather remarkable man. When his education is thoroughly attended to he often exhibits excellent qualities. He becomes an apt linguist, talks the English language with purity and fluency, holds his own in conversation with a European, and if he has gone through a system of educational training, such as is pursued at the Hooghly College in Bengal, he becomes quite an expert in fluency of language, and an excellent arithmetician and bookkeeper. His language is formed from the books which he has attentively read, and accordingly you find him, when taking care of some inferior indoor work, employing his leisure time in such works as Shakespeare's plays or Bacon's essays. His language is oftentimes surprising to a prosaic Englishman. On one occasion at one of these factories a youth employed in keeping accounts was asked about a person belonging to the establishment, to which he replied that "the gentleman was not "within the mansion, but might be found sojourning within the confines of the bamboo forest"—the said forest consisting of a row of bamboo trees in the rear of the counting-house. On another occasion a youth paid for the feeding of a horse and man from the military station of Segouliha, about twelve miles from Turcouleah, the cost of which in English money would be about three-half-pence, but the entry in the cash book was made thus—"Paid for banquet to the Segouliha cavalry, one

"anna." Some of the natives thus educated appear as barristers, both in the local and superior courts, and from what I have heard from parties connected with such courts, they exhibit great talent in addressing the court or jury, but the complaint is said to be almost universal, that condensation of thought is so difficult to them that the court has often been wearied with the loquacity of the speaker. In the majority of cases however, out of respect to the man, he is allowed to finish his argument in his own way. The Government of India, seeing the outcome of native talent in this way, is now directing its attention to their increased employment throughout India, and there seems to be very little doubt that in a few generations hence the native Hindoos will be employed in prominent places, in the management of many parts of the Empire. This view is not often held by the European, but the time will no doubt arrive, when the small number of civil and military Europeans in India will require to conform to the results of the increased education the native is now receiving.

While I have thus dwelt upon a class which is by far the largest in India, I have not alluded to the minority or Mohamedan class which form a portion of the Indian Empire. It is curious to remark that while the Hindoo and his congeners have inhabited the plains of India for many thousands of years anterior to the Christian era, the Mohamedan race, which was long dominant throughout a

large portion of Europe, have only held a limited sway in India, for one thousand years. Their reign was of a type similar to what it then was both in Europe and other portions of Asia. The Mohamedan is, in appearance, unlike the Hindoo. He is taller, with athletic limbs and broad chest; is, in formation, outwardly, a superior-looking man to the Hindoo and some of the other castes. He appears not to be so apt in education, and his usual calling in this portion of the country, is that of merchant and dealer in bazaars, in important situations upon land, and in farming operations for the production of all sorts of crops. He is often employed in private residences, making there a more intelligent help than the Hindoo. I have lived with several of them in this manner, but, while they did duty faithfully, they maintained an independent manner and standing, and seemed disinclined to treat you in the same friendly disposition as the Hindoo did. His deportment towards the European is different from that of the Hindoo, and indicates an indisposition to our rule; and under the influence of ignorance in the first place, and of the Brahmin and Faqueer in the second place, it seems clear that he belongs to a portion of the people yet destined to give us trouble in India. He is by no means, in approaching a European, so courtly in his manner as the Hindoo, and one would think in looking at him, is rather defiant in appearance than otherwise. In meeting a Mohamedan on the road when travelling, you can easily distinguish him from

the Hindoo in the growth of his beard, and often in the omission of the customary salaam as he passes, and which is sometimes shown in a downward look. On one occasion, as a friend of mine told me, during the mutiny, a Faqueer passed him on horseback ; and in place of giving the ordinary salaam, threw his saliva on the ground, an insult which was considered to be grievous, even from one native to another. My friend noticed the man proceeding on his journey and, dallying with his horse, he allowed the Faqueer again to pass. The like operation was again followed. It became now time that my friend should vindicate his position, whereupon he dismounted and applied his whip to the back of the Faqueer. Nothing daunted, a knife or spear was drawn from under the Faqueer's dress, whereupon a revolver was shown by the traveller, and thus the matter ended by the Faqueer moving off. It is hoped that this example of the conduct of the race is not often repeated, but it seems clear to any cognisant passing traveller that he needs more careful watching than most portions of the Hindoo race. The Mohamedan also appears to be more strict in the daily observance of religious duties, and conforms to these with scrupulous care. He is often seen while the sun goes down in gorgeous splendour using the forms of his religion on the ground. He is seen at devotion falling down upon his carpet and, with his face to the ground, rising up with rapidity, making several salaams with the palms of his hands, and again falling down.

This is repeated for a considerable time, apparently in the use of prayers from the Koran. The Mohamedans are often found to be attached servants. The Hill family have long had a portion of this caste ; all of them in service during the mutiny stood by the family and the Europeans during the whole of that calamity. There was no doubt about the Hindoos doing so ; and I doubt not in both cases their conduct arose from the kind treatment they had all received from their masters.

*Now, my dear friend, as you have listened to the narrative of my journey so far as the interior of India, and, notwithstanding its dry and perhaps uninteresting details, have given me your cordial attention, allow me to break the journey with you for a time, while I address myself to another imaginary friend, whom for the nonce we shall call "Helen."*

*MY DEAR HELEN,*

*I have been travelling with the story of the Indian tour in the company of a friend long well known to all of us. And wishing to avoid the tedium of a narrative, sometimes light and at other times grave, and that the monotony may not seem so tiresome to one kind hearer, allow me now to take your good self up, in listening to the tale of what I have seen, heard, and noted in the interior of the wonderful country I am now travelling through. Allow me then, without breaking the narrative, to address myself to you as another imaginary friend.*

## LETTER II.

To show the influence which Brahmins and Faqueers have on the higher as well as lower castes, it may be interesting to notice an event which recently occurred in the family of the Maharajah of Betiah. The head of the house got into bad health, and the Brahmin, taking the place of the medicine man in some countries, was sent for to Benares. It is probable that something was arranged with his tribe before leaving the holy city. At any rate, on reaching Betiah, after certain formalities in the examination of his patient were gone through, a prescription was ordered that the patient should be weighed in silver. This was accordingly done from the strong chests of the chief, and whilst, it is presumed, some simple medicine would be prescribed for the relief of the patient, the whole weight of the silver was carried off to Benares, and used for the benefit of the Brahmins and their confederates. I am not aware that this imposition is often practised, but a case of a similar kind was found out at a subsequent period, when the wife of the same chief took ill. It was ordered by

the Brahmins that the lady should be weighed in gold, and this being done, it was arranged that the gold should be carried to Benares. As the lady was suspicious, however, of some of the parties, she resolved to accompany the gold to the holy city, that she might be bathed in the waters of the Ganges. During the journey the unhappy lady died, and the chief servant who accompanied her took possession of the treasure, and carried it to his own dwelling, whereupon a rumour soon spread of the destination of the gold. A gentleman whom I met with, being a magistrate, obtained a warrant from the proper authority, for searching the supposed delinquent's house, and found there a bar of gold. The man was sent to prison, the case was proved against him, and having been sentenced to imprisonment, the gold was restored to the family, and thus the matter ended, to the discomfiture of the Brahmins. The result of these two cases show the ignorance which prevails even among the upper and wealthier classes in this part of India ; and at the same time the improper power of the Brahmin class. It is believed that cases of a similar character are practised by the Brahmins for their own especial benefit, but notwithstanding these plunderings there are always in the hands of these Rajahs broad lands and wealth of a large character. The Rajah of Betiah, it is reported, has an income of about £150,000 sterling a year, and there are several chiefs of a similar class whose incomes range from £150,000 to £200,000 a year.

These large incomes are in a great measure attributable to the increased value of their possessions, and to the settlement made by Lord Cornwallis in the year 1793. This settlement applies to the whole of the district in which we are now situated, and to upper and lower Bengal. Previous to 1793 this portion of India, as a conquered country, belonged to the British Government, and the cultivators of the soil at that time held the name of Zemindar, the popular meaning of which is under-governor or collector of revenue. These men were thus placed in possession of large tracks of land, under covenant to pay to the imperial Government a certain average rent. They were thus completely in the employment of the Government as tenants for the time being. Lord Cornwallis, however, who was then the Viceroy of India, took into consideration a mode of attaching these Zemindars to the Indian rule, and accordingly inaugurated and carried into effect a law whereby the Zemindar in possession was turned into a resident proprietor under an obligation to pay to the Government for the time being a rent for the lands in his possession equal to what was paid by him as a collector or tenant. Thus these men, many of whom held large possessions, became landed proprietors subject to payment of the rent current at the period when this law was passed. They were also bound to pay taxes for the support of the country on the fixed rent then agreed upon. This arrangement, while apparently good at the period of its

completion, and generous on the part of the Cornwallis Government, has been found in the course of years, and especially at the time of the late mutiny, to be one of those blunders in the management of finance, which has created a class of men at the present day who are among the largest possessors of wealth to be found in the whole Empire. Taking the cases of these Rajah proprietors in the districts of Betiah, Darbungo, and Sarum, the united annual incomes of the present Rajahs in these provinces cannot be rated under five hundred thousand pounds sterling a year, while they are only bound by the Cornwallis agreement to pay the rent stipulated for in 1793, and while the Government has been obliged to increase the expense of its management of the province from 1793 till the present time, and has protected the original Zemindar in his legal right to the land, the latter is only bound to pay his share of the yearly taxes upon the rent originally fixed upon. He has thus by the development of the country, by the increased produce of the soil, and the security given by our rule, been enabled to become possessed of enormous wealth. But notwithstanding this, the education and enlightenment of each generation of these Zemindars has been partially neglected. The family has thus become, in place of a benefit to the country, rather a thorn in its side, the wealth he is possessed of being turned, through the influence of the Brahmin and Faqueer priests upon these parties, against the Government of

the day. The whole of this Cornwallis settlement, therefore, brought great burdens upon the Bengal people. Had the Government continued the Zemindar system, in place of the heavy imposition of taxes now prevalent in Bengal, the increased value of the land and its returns would have enabled the Government to conduct its affairs in that part of India without any of the taxes now payable. A grand opportunity was lost by omitting to alter this settlement after the Mutiny. The Governor had then a good excuse for doing so, and the change might have been effected without difficulty. Had even a revisal of the scheme at the end of a period of twenty-five or thirty years been made, the taxation of this portion of India would have been lessened, and the power for evil on the part of the Zemindars curbed.

Among a large portion of the population of India it has often been stated that infanticide among the lower classes was prevalent, especially with female offspring. It is believed now that infanticide among the lower class is by no means so prevalent. The parents have come to see that, as a female child grows up, its services are often of importance in adding to the wages of the family, and thus from selfish views the crime is lessened. In the upper classes, however, there is a certain amount of this crime still prevalent. In this class it is found that the birth of a female child is a source of anxiety on the part of its parents, who look to a contemplated marriage at a

certain age, should it come to womanhood ; and there being fewer candidates of their own caste for such a union, the child is often sacrificed to avoid this, and also to prevent the expenditure of those large sums of money, which the marriage of a Rajah's daughter creates. Their large incomes are often frittered away by parties in the management of their estates, by gifts to the Brahmins and Faqueers, by the family expenses, and by the marriage feasts. It is sometimes found that when a ceremony of this character is to be performed, the large incomes alluded to have been frittered away, and it becomes necessary to borrow money at an extravagant rate of interest, to provide for the marriage expenses. The affairs of these chiefs by this and other means often get into such disorder that a remedy for such complications becomes necessary. The Government, seeing the necessity for this, passed a law called the "Wards Act," whereby in large mismanaged estates, either involved in debt or by the death of the chief, with families in minority, the administrators under the Act step in and appoint European collectors and engineers to take possession, manage, and account for their operations. In this way many large tracks of country belonging to Rajahs, under European management, have been swiftly redeemed. In the case of the Rajah of Darbungo, whose dominions I passed through, it was found on the death of the late owner, that although he had a rental of upwards of two

hundred thousand pounds a year, his affairs were in irretrievable confusion. Debts were owing to the extent of one million sterling. The deceased's affairs were put under the "Wards Act," and administered by two gentlemen in the Civil Service. Both of them became known to me, and one of them stated that since the death of the incumbent, and during the minority of his son, they had not only paid off this enormous debt, but had largely improved the position and rental of the estates. Their powers under the Act had yet five years to run, when the young chief would become of age, and then make the "Wards' Act" a dead letter. The income was increasing so rapidly, that some difficulty was experienced in throwing so large a revenue, as would then be in the power of the chief, into his hands. It had, therefore, been resolved upon to expend during the remaining years of minority, fifty thousand pounds a year in the improvement of his principality, chiefly using the money for increased accommodation in roads, in extensive irrigation works upon the soil, and for large tanks or ponds of water for the supply of the irrigation. But notwithstanding this large expenditure for the benefit of the young Rajah, there would still remain an income of two hundred and twenty thousand pounds a year to a youth of twenty-one, who, on attaining that age, would be then untrammelled in its expenditure, and might thus be led into many extravagances, resulting in a new confusion

of his affairs. I had the pleasure of being introduced to this young Rajah at Mozufferpore, and had some conversation with him. He spoke English remarkably well—was between fifteen and sixteen years of age,—had a pleasant, cheerful countenance, with a Hindoo type of head, which if not well-trained and educated might lead him into danger.

The history of this case is not unlike that of many others similarly circumstanced.

Adjoining the country in which we are now living is the province of Nepaul. It is distant about 150 miles from our residence, is about six thousand feet above the plains of India; it has a jungle called the "terrai," the upper part of which belongs to Nepaul, and the corn-growing or lower portion to the Government of India. This territory stretches along the borders of Thibet and the lower Himalayas, and is about one hundred and fifty miles in length, but much less in width. It is inhabited by an independent and warlike people, is nominally under a king and his family, but really managed by a man named Jung Bahadoor, who was the nephew of the reigning prime minister. Jung was as a young man very talented, and apparently unscrupulous. He made large gains by gambling, and finding his uncle in his way, by the instigation of the queen, got him assassinated. The colleague of the murdered prime minister demanded vengeance; but he in his turn was cut down, and a son of the prime minister shared the same fate. Jung Bahadoor

cunningly invited fourteen chiefs to meet him at Khatmandhu. These chiefs in their own district or commune of Nepaul hold great power, and form petty despots, having power over life and death. Jung, finding they stood in his way, formed this plan of invitation to get quit of them. All of them fell into the snare, apparently unarmed, and confronted the new prime minister. Jung came into their presence fully armed, and otherways prepared—having two revolvers in his belt. He lost no time in their use. He fired his revolvers fourteen times, and killed thirteen of the number; the fourteenth, escaping, was cut down on reaching the door. Jung next morning assumed power as sole governor of the great territory of Nepaul. A conspiracy followed these crimes, but did not succeed. Every one joining it was beheaded. Jung having thus supreme authority in his own hands ordered the queen to quit the country. The king, who seems to be the weaker vessel, did so too. Being thus apparently free from his enemies, Jung raised to the throne the heir-apparent, and made the king a prisoner. He thus rules under the boy, and, in due time, having a family of his own, has not only succeeded in making an early marriage of his daughter to the young king, but has married his son to the king's daughter, and has thus become lord and ruler over the whole territory, and has recalled the deposed king, with whom it is said he usually plays cards, and is found ordinarily on the winning side, keeps his

savings thus secured, in case of accident, in a well of his own. He indulges the young king and the king's sister, keeps them as much as he can in ignorance; but takes care to educate his children well, thinking thus to make his own family ultimately the rulers and governors of the land. This notorious man is said to be about fifty years of age. He has visited, and been feted in England, and having found out its power by personal examination, took care during the Mutiny to help, instead of opposing, the Government of India. During the recent visit of the Prince of Wales, he entertained the Prince in the jungle at Terai, with tiger hunting, and exhibited the extraordinary scene of five hundred elephants, brought together for the purpose of sport and show. During the lifetime of Jung his ability and unscrupulous pluck will keep the country quiet, but many difficulties may occur in the event of his death. The whole future of the country in such an event appears to be a blank; and even while he reigns, such a cunning and talented usurper might give us trouble, in the event of any future rising in India. Jung jealously restricts the entrance of Europeans into his kingdom. His answer to a desire for travelling in it is, that an Englishman is so inquisitive and troublesome a character, that Jung dislikes getting into disagreement with the Indian Government, and accordingly, while travellers may reach Khatmandhu, where a resident of the British Government is stationed, no traveller can go beyond

that city ; and so cautious is the Indian Government about the position of Mr. Girdleston, the popular resident of the day at Khatmandhu, that he has a guard of two hundred picked soldiers around him. It is of importance, notwithstanding the character of this man, to keep him the friend of England. The large line of territory in Nepaul, bordering on our possessions, is backed by the mountains of the Himalayas, and makes the whole of this country, which is not under our dominion, of importance to our Government. The population of Nepaul is chiefly composed of tribes called Ghourkas, evidently a cross with a mixture of the China, Thibet, and Indian development in their composition, and are of a type so superior to the Hindoo or Mohamedan, that they by training make the best soldiers in India. They are like most of the Chinamen, a short-sized, broad-chested people, with large types of heads, and activity which, under proper training, makes them excellent soldiers. About sixty years ago they were very insolent to the British soldiers, but have, after having felt the punishment given them by the British forces, been quiet and friendly. It would be of great importance to the aid of the British rule in India if a large increase of this type of soldier could be added to our native forces.

The area of Nepaul is said to extend to about 54,000 square miles, has a population of about 3,000,000 of hardy people, and has a revenue of about £430,000 per year. The constitution of the country was origi-

nally independent and democratic, every village having its own laws and its own management of affairs, including the power of punishment in life, or by death. It will thus be seen that as Jung gets older there may come a crisis in the management of affairs. A friend of mine put a question to Mr. Girdlestone—What would likely happen should Jung become seriously ill? The answer obtained was that Jung's brother, General Bahadoor, might then be disposed to "polish him off" and take the reins in his own hands; and he added, in that case my head might be in danger. When I was in India it was reported that the notorious Nana Sahaib of the Indian Mutiny was living and hidden in Nepaul.

*December, 1875.*—I met an intelligent gentleman who was a judge in the higher courts, and who was well acquainted with the Nana affair. He thinks in the late inquiry into the capture of a man calling himself the Nana; we were driven off the scent, and apparently befooled by Scindia of Gwalior. This chief represents Maharatta in Central India. He holds a considerable position in that part of the Empire, possesses enormous land revenue, and considerable payments made by feudatories, which, with the annual income derived from the customs, gives him the command of upwards of £800,000 per year, and has about 22,000 men and officers to be maintained out of this large income. It is supposed that Scindia had the Nana about him, and when the search for this criminal

was made, the Nana was sent off to Nepaul, and a man presented as the Nana something like a Faqueer. On first examination of this man, he stated that he was not the Nana, but a portrait of the Nana being presented to him he recognized it; and my friend is of opinion now that the Nana still lives, and is somewhere in the kingdom of Nepaul.

One of our party who had gone through the mutiny, and was imprisoned for a time in Lucknow, had considerable information to give about the hill tribes on the borders of India, and of the country which the Russians are now attempting to lay hold of. This gentleman is of opinion that these tribes in their fastnesses will give no end of trouble to the approach of any Russian force, and would likely surround their opponents and cut them off. Both he and my friend the judge knew the views taken on this subject by Sir Henry Rawlinson. They did not share his views, and thought with the moderate force at our command, and with the assistance of the hill tribes well commanded, there was not the danger Rawlinson and others apprehended. A successful campaign on our part would drive back the Russian force, and they both thought that our position in this part of India was greatly improved for a successful defence, and in considering fully Rawlinson's views would advise him, after an absence of twenty years, to revisit the country and judge for himself.

This very much corresponds with views given to me

by another party, a Russian himself, and a Count of one of the provinces situated on the Baltic. I travelled about ten days with the Count. He stated that the advances of the Russians through the wild territories bordering on their country and approaching to the Caspian sea and to our Indian territories was, in his opinion, destined only for commercial purposes, and that Russia did not contemplate invading India. Of course the opinions of this Count must be taken for what they are worth, but they seem to correspond with those of my friends whose residence in India has been little short of a quarter of a century.

We will now turn to another subject which a traveller in this part of India sees in ample form in the variety of birds, animals, and insects which surround him almost undisturbed, and so very unlike those to be seen in any part of Great Britain, he cannot but take immediate notice if living long in one position. Among the feathered tribe we have got the green parrot, perching on the trees around the house, and picking the fruit for its food. This bird has a remarkable appearance, coming as it does in great numbers in the evening and making sometimes considerable noise. The mina is another bird of the tropics, of black and white feathers; they travel in enormous numbers throughout this part of the country, and generally settle in the evenings in the jungle wood approaching a stream or tank. These birds have a very peculiar sound of the voice and, like the grey parrot,

have powers of imitation very interesting and amusing when treated well and trained in a family. We had some at Turcouleah; one of them was able to imitate every sound it heard. It could laugh like my daughter, when occasional sallies caused her to do so in conversation; it imitated the natives, one of whom at the time had a cough, and this was so well done, that if you had not seen the bird, you would have thought the native was at hand coughing. It imitated equally well the bark of a small dog, or the bellowing of the buffalo, often to our no small amusement. Then we had got among the scavengers the crow, very like those of our own country, then the hawk, the Indian eagle, the vulture, and a large species of bird called the kite. These are particularly useful in clearing the ground of the offal of dead animals, the effluvia of which, if left unconsumed, would render the land unfit to live in. In the woods and small streams around there are a variety of small birds of elegant plumage, the names of which are unknown to me. Then the birds of sport are chiefly the wild duck and partridge. The variety of animals is, of course, very great in such a country, flocks of which you everywhere see of the buffaloes, and of common four-footed beasts. The cow is looked upon as a sacred animal, and is never killed for food; it is only used in labour as a substitute for the horse, in the cultivation of land or in drawing carts or other vehicles throughout the country. These animals live to a considerable

age, and herd in great flocks all over the country. A traveller, without knowing the sacred character of the animal, looks upon this portion of these, to us useful animals, as a form of great wealth; but as the native castes never feed upon them, the chief value when dead is the skin for commercial purposes. Another animal of sport is the wild pig, or boar. He inhabits the jungle all over India, is often about three feet and a half in height, possessed of large powers in running, and tusks which make it dangerous for anyone to come across the animal. He is generally looked upon by sportsmen as of great importance as a capture. From the dangerous qualities of the animal the sport is generally confined either to horseback or to elephants. The chief method of killing and capture is by long mounted spears, thus the sport receives the denomination in India of pig-sticking, a name which is often misunderstood, when being reported in our country. I have spoken of the jackal and of its work, and of its musical organs in the evening, and also of the Indian fox, and of its swift running and harmless character. I have also noticed the character of the pariah dog; but there is another small animal—the mongoos, which burrows in the ground in the way the rabbits of our country do, is about the same size as the prairie dog of America, and apparently of the same family tribe. Like its American congener, it makes small underground workings, living in families, and only making its appearance above, for amusement, food, and sunning

himself. The monkey inhabits the jungle in great numbers. It is of the usual amusing character, but very small in size, feeding upon fruits of the trees and secreting himself among the branches of the jungle. We have also the porcupine with its arrows, but not much harm comes of it. The serpent tribe around our residence was entirely dormant during the cold weather, so I saw nothing of them during my residence, but I had ample experience of the insect tribe. They may be said to be legion, the most offensive of which is the Indian bug. It emits as you pass it an obnoxious smell very like a larger animal called the "skunk" in America. The muskrat is another of them which often runs about your residence and leaves an aroma of its approach on your olfactory nerves. The scent from its body often sets the dogs in the house barking, and running after it for the purpose of capture. It is a harmless animal, though disagreeable to have inside a house. The mosquito of course is the most annoying of all to the human body. It seldom attacks the skin of old residents, but is an active enemy of the new European comer. I have had experience of this insect in almost all warm countries, but I think the Indian type is neither so large nor so vicious as those by which I have been attacked on the Mississippi. The *bête noir* of all the insects in India is the white ant; it is a small, insignificant insect possessed of more powers of mischief to many articles in India than many of the wild animals. It cunningly enters upon the

beams of a house, and, without outwardly showing its work, consumes the interior of the wood to such an extent that beams have often been found to fall from their position, although outwardly appearing strong. Its activity and destruction are of the same character to all kinds of wood cut down and not growing. It is a curious fact, that the small birds are so inimical to this insect that if a large number are near the spot they inhabit, they are found out and made food of, and it is believed that, in large towns, by cultivating the sparrow and allowing it shelter, the house may be, to a large extent, freed from this tropical pest.

Among the remarkable trees in this portion of Bengal, the one called the banyan tree is of a very singular type. It spreads from its stem over a large area of ground, the branches are strong and lengthy, and in ordinary circumstances from their weight would break down, but the arms of these branches droop, sink into the ground and become supports, looking like stems of additional trees, and although the original trunk becomes old, and gives way, these stems increase in number and often spread over a large area. In the lands of Turcouleah, one of these remarkable trees extends over about four acres of ground, and is thus capable, in case of need in very hot weather, of serving as a shelter to a very large number of people; sometimes under this area another tree grows called the Pepul, and this tree is looked upon as sacred, and under and around its

stem, the natives assemble and worship at a rude erection of brick and earthenwork covered partially with clay of a red and white character; the only other emblem of sacredness used, is a string with some knots of flowers hanging from a branch of the tree, and not unlike the string of beads used among the Roman Catholics for saying their prayers in church. The Faqueers are the priests of these natives, and go about the country clothed in the usual miserable condition, and live as mendicants upon the people; from the appearance of those I saw, they are not unlike a certain class of monks until recently to be found in Italy and other parts of Europe; they are generally very ignorant, and go through the worship and sacrifices, with the approval of the same ignorant class of people.

Another tree of a special character is one called the Tar tree. It has a slender stalk, in height about 15 feet, with leaves at the top, and bears a fruit which produces a liquor resembling some kind of spirit in our own country. The liquor is obtained by cutting the upper part of the tree near to the growth of the fruit and extracting the liquid, which is used by the natives, and sometimes made a trade of by carrying cans of the liquor through the country.

We now made a journey along with Doctor Hill, his wife, and his visitors, to a portion of the country to visit another indigo plantation called Peprah, the property of a gentleman of the name of

W——, and under the charge of two gentlemen named M'Leod. It is beautifully situated in a large park well timbered, and alongside of a lake, being portion of an extinct river, with a large extent of jungle on the side of the lake opposite to the house. This jungle is of great interest to sportsmen; besides the usual birds and wild ducks, it contains a considerable number of the wild pig. In the lake there are some fish of a large character, in appearance not unlike a half-grown cod of this country; they seemed to be foul-feeders, as the fish when brought to table have an earthy taste, unlike similar fish to be found in Europe, and this likely arises from the confined state of the water, having no egress to a running stream.

We were as usual most hospitably entertained, and in our mission to and fro, passed in a journey of about twelve miles, through a very fine country, well timbered, and interspersed with numerous villages. The usual half-made roads along which the traffic in buffalo carts passed, were very large, and made our carriage rock. The natives along the whole of our route seemed to be of a well-to-do character, and their bamboo cottages of a better kind than those I had seen in other drives.

In some portions of India where the Mohamedans prevail, a system of visiting is of such a peculiar character, that it is worth recording. When the male portion are inclined to be hospitable, the invitation is given by letter in their own style; but

when the lady parties are invited it is done in quite another fashion: parcels of bon-bons and other condiments are placed in papers ornamentally fashioned and made-up; outside, the lady's name who is to be invited, is placed; these invitations are sent to the proposed guests with native servants, who, as they go along, play a sort of Indian music on what is called a tom-tom and other instruments, and on reaching the house of each party, the parcel is thus left. This mode of invitation apparently has arisen from the ignorance in which the women are kept, none of whom in former times could either read or write; and the custom, as I understood, is not yet departed from, as it is considered by the Mohamedan, that nothing is more horrifying to his views, than parting from the customs as well as the faith of his forefathers.

It may be interesting to record that, about twelve miles from Turcouleah, there is a pillar of stone of a very ancient date, which is supposed to mark the movements of Alexander the Great, when he fought and ultimately conquered some parts of India. The stone is marked by an inscription in the Sanscrit or some other language of an ancient date; although many scholars have attempted a translation, no one has yet been able to effect it. There is another pillar of stone of a similar character and inscription to be found at Bethia, a distance of about twenty miles from Turcouleah. Taking the history of these two stones in connection with the ancient tombs at Allahabad,

containing inscriptions of a like kind, it may be inferred that these form indications of monuments referring to a people who may at one time have reached, in this part of India, a certain civilization and enlightenment, and have passed away, giving place to the races now occupying the land.

*Christmas, 1875.*—We are now in the midst of nothing but excitement amongst the European population. Wherever we travel, there is the usual increased conversation about the visit of the Prince of Wales, his movements from place to place, his urbanity to the people, and to the enormous expense which native princes are put to in coming with their tribes to visit him at various points in this part of India. At a distance from railway and water communication, it is only among the Europeans as the imperial type of the people, and the native Rajahs and their dependants, that much is known about the doings and movements of His Royal Highness. It may almost be taken for granted that there is little or nothing known of the visit by the masses of the working population. These people are all confined to the soil, have little means of movement unless upon feast days, have yet little education, have no public conveyances along the unformed roads, are yet without native or foreign papers to enlighten them; but while they are thus subject to ignorance upon such matters, are often aroused into activity, as was found in the days of the mutiny, when the fat of the bullock was taken to grease the cartridge of

the soldier, and when Lord Dalhousie took upon his Government the annexation of the kingdom of Oude. Natives, high or low, who are in the knowledge of the Prince's movements, manifest great loyalty to the Indian and Home Governments, and show a warm approval on their part of the royal visit.

The gentlemen in this neighbourhood, since the days of the Mutiny, formed themselves, under European protection, into a regiment of mounted cavalry. They are nominally about two hundred strong, dressed in blue uniform, with corresponding trappings, and turn out, upon steeds well trained for the purpose, and by cohesion and duty are of great importance to the peace of this portion of India, situated, as it is, about seventy miles beyond the Ganges and Gunduk, and fenced at the distance of one hundred and seventy miles by the neutral territory of Nepaul. When the Prince left Calcutta on his way to the north-west, it was resolved by the governor of that province, he should have a reception at Bankipore, a station on the East Indian Railway. This gave rise to the mounted cavalry assembling in great numbers. They formed a body guard around the tent in which the Prince was to receive the native chiefs, and to hold a durbar or audience with them and the Europeans. There accordingly took place in that part of India one of the most remarkable sights the Prince had witnessed. Besides the numerous trains of the native chiefs, and the assemblage of Europeans, there

met him on his line of march, no less than five hundred elephants, mounted with howdahs and other trappings, and through these two body guards of cavalry and elephants, the Prince was welcomed by the immense populace assembled there, and was particularly gratified by the attention paid to him, and especially by the corps of mounted Europeans which formed his guard of honour. This meeting at Bankipore formed one of the great durbars on his mission to the north-west, and it was particularly gratifying to the Government authorities to find that the meeting passed off so well and so quietly, as this portion of India, which includes the large city of Patna, was previous to the mutiny the most disaffected in India. It is a section of the country, where a people called "Wahabees" are settled. These men had a combination previous to the mutiny, which supplied money to, and created dissatisfaction among the native troops. They were supposed to be possessed of wealth, and the disaffection among them, it is said, arose from the promulgation of the deposition of the King of Oude and the annexation of his territory: and by the news of the cartridges for the native troops having been greased by the fat of the sacred cow.

The Wahabees still reside in this part of India, but their leaders are well known and their power and influence is unlike what it formerly was. A circumstance, however, arose prior to this durbar at Bankipore,

which obliged the men at headquarters to be particularly careful of the passage of the Prince over the railway from Calcutta, a distance of between four hundred and five hundred miles. An anonymous letter was received by the Commissioner at Bankipore, stating that care should be taken lest something should happen, through the agency of the disaffected, upon the passage of the Prince upon the railway. Although not looking upon any serious evil from the contents of an anonymous letter, the Government took the precaution of planting along the whole line of the railway, servants of the company, and police officers of the district, at each half mile of the distance to be travelled, and thus enabled the Prince to pass through this disaffected part of his journey in safety.

*January, 1876.*—We are now in the midst of what is called the cold weather, the thermometer ranging in the morning from 55° to 60°. Numerous tribes of travelling traders, from other parts of India, including those bordering upon our territories, pay us a visit and sell their wares. They chiefly consist of Cabul, Cashmere men, and Rajputs. The appearance of these tribes generally presents a considerable contrast to that of the Hindoo. The Cabul men are tall, wiry in their appearance, long faced features, curly hair, aquiline nose, and would, from their height and appearance, make good soldiers if cleaned, trained, and dressed. The Rajputs are of a similar character, but their features are not so marked,

nor their appearance so strong as the Cabul men. The Cashmere men are again smaller in stature than the other two, but have a type of head resembling a European. They are traders and manufacturers, and if well educated and trained would make quiet and intelligent members of society. During the winter season, representatives of these tribes pass down from their own country, with large quantities of their peculiar woollen and silk garments, and bring these to the residences of parties likely to purchase, very much resembling the men called packmen in our own country, who, not less than a hundred years ago, worked out a living with inferior articles. The Cabul men, on the other hand, are of a stronger and more imperious-looking type; they come in classes sometimes numbering four, and have generally a number of camels with them, to carry the loads they have to sell. They trade in the productions of Cabul, bringing with them various young trees, capable of bearing fruit, and which, being planted in the soils of Bengal, generally yield good crops. They bring also the production of that country in nuts, oranges, and other small fruit, and also an animal which is often coveted in this part of the country—the white cat. The party visiting us had several of these animals. They are very like our own, but both body and tail are of a longer character. These natives travel thus throughout the country with their wares, wending their way from day to day towards Calcutta, and having sold both their live and dead

stock, including the camels, return to their own country, and, after an occasional rest, begin again their trade. These Rajputs and Cabuls, though of a rough type, would make, attached to our native troops, good and efficient soldiers.

The cultivation and planting of indigo is a much more difficult operation than that of tea. It requires a much larger capital, a greater variety of work, a thorough knowledge of the markets, a keen insight into the value of the soil, and the whole system of cultivation is much more dependent upon the seasons. In the indigo works visited by me, in which centre the whole cultivation of the large possessions of the Hill family, there are employed a vast variety of natives more or less cultivated by education and experience, and drawn from castes of all characters, but chiefly from the Hindoo and Mohamedan. The educated men in these works are generally what are called Bengalese. They are employed in various positions of trust under the head manager. One of these is a native well known to me, who is called Baboo Gorse; he received his secondary education at the Hooghly College, and belongs to a very good caste. He is employed as the cash and book-keeper of the establishment, and does the duty in a most satisfactory manner; in fact, he has been so well trained in writing and speaking English, and casting up accounts, that, as his master told me, that though the calculations are very minute and sometimes intricate, he has seldom found an

error. He carries on the correspondence with the natives in their own language, and writes also English letters. His appearance and manners are very like those of an English gentleman, and he conducts his work so well, that he is able to live in a good bungalow, to keep a two-wheeled machine with a pony to drive in, and although Europeans (he being a Hindoo) do not enter his house, they are aware it is well conducted, and his children well cared for. In conducting a work so extensive, it is necessary to have besides Gorse, men masters of various languages; one of these is a native who, among other languages, is an expert in the Persian, one of the most difficult tongues known on this continent. He is entrusted with the deciphering and translation of Persian letters coming to the establishment, and with the composition of answers necessary for reply.

These two men are but types of an increased class of natives of Bengal, now being educated and trained for various works and professions, and as they grow up, showing an increased amount of learning and talent hitherto dormant in the Indian population. Many of them speak our language with great facility and purity, and often learn it from the best authors in our country. The works of Shakespeare, and Bacon, and Addison's *Spectator*, are often being read and studied as models for the acquisition of the language. Government are now taking increased means to extend this sort of training, and by having the English

language spoken in our higher Courts of Law, the cultivation of it by the natives is yearly extending, so that in a generation or two the prevalence of an English-speaking people may be raised up in many more provinces of the Empire than that of Bengal.

But to return to the indigo works. Besides the two chief superintendents, there are a number of native clerks employed. In order to keep strict terms with the natives, it becomes necessary to have written contracts, between the head men of the villages where the workers are situated and the landlords. These clerks are employed in writing contracts in the Hindostanee language. In one of my visits to the works I saw upwards of thirty of these men, enjoying the morning sun of a December day, squatting outside of the offices, and, with their work upon the knee, sedulously writing the contracts referred to. In another portion of the works there are a large number of mechanics in wood and iron: they are employed in manufacturing the chief instruments for the tilling of the soil, and they do it in the ancient and primitive manner known here, but hardly understood in our country. The mechanic does not stand, in either sawing wood, or in manufacturing a piece of iron into an implement to be used. He squats upon the ground, and uses his feet and his toes for the purpose of fixing the article worked on, and then uses his hands for fashioning it. This is the method employed in sawing and planing either wood or iron, and to a

traveller has a very curious appearance. At the same time, it seems the most efficient plan for the production of the work in which he is engaged. In the fields connected with the work there is another class of men employed. He is an experienced workman, similar in this country to a grieve employed upon the cultivation of lands. He has a large range of country, through which he constantly travels, that he may see the work the natives are employed in being efficiently performed. This type of native is generally selected after considerable training, and is allowed a Cabul pony to carry him over his district. The majority of these workers, especially of the Hindoo caste, are of a quiet and well-disposed race, and, with the education and training given them, will ultimately make an intelligent class. They appear now only to begin to understand the nature and impartiality of the English rule.

The native chiefs, from their wealth, and from the power held over them by the Brahmins and Faqueers, often promote discord, and this interference being mixed up with religious rites, ceremonies, and superstitions, sometimes tends to create an ill-will among the people. It is clear to a traveller, that in this interior portion of India, any attempt at conversion or proselytism of the millions of all castes in this portion of the Empire might lead to disasters akin to the Mutiny of 1857. The Brahmin and Faqueer priests have so great a hold on the castes both high and low, that the alarm of such a subject as proselytism and

conversion would be spread far and wide throughout the whole district.

It is thus that the missions from European churches have made so small success in the interior of India. The activity upon the sea-board shows some progress upon the part of all missionaries, including the Roman Catholic and the English Church, and hence, notwithstanding all the outlay for the missions referred to, the conversions cannot be counted upon as more than a few thousand natives, out of the 238,000,000 more or less under our rule. The Roman Catholic missionaries are the most resolute. There are some stations where they take up their abode in existing convents, and where, in the cause of proselytism they do not scruple to buy native children, and educate them free of charge, thus showing at Rome so many converts to the faith. But the missionaries of the Church of England, and the Nonconformists practise no such means. They have in some of the sea-board cities, numerous converts, but as these are thrown off by the caste to which they originally belonged, they must form either a society of their own, or be looked upon as pariahs by all castes. The English Church throughout the interior of India is chiefly valuable through its parsons and missionaries for holding services for the military and civil population, and are often thus a very useful element in the limited society with which the European is surrounded. In this part of India these gentlemen are chiefly valued on this

account. The missionary had no station, but, at the various military and civil posts, a modest and well-conducted English Church. On the sea-board and in large cities the missionaries of all churches are both numerous, influential and active, and perform a most valuable act in the education of the young, and this is done in a manner upon the whole satisfactory to the people, as no peculiarly theological opinions are introduced into the schools. Such views, if practised, would prove an element of serious discord among the various castes of natives, who adhere with tenacity to their own views in these matters, whether the class be Hindoos or Mohamedans, or belong to any other caste throughout the country.

My friend Miss Carpenter of Bristol has been making a fourth journey into India for the purpose of inducing all the native castes to give increased education to the native women. She had been most successful in former journeys undertaken for this purpose, and is equally so in the present. Although the influence of one person may apparently do little among the millions scattered around her in the cities and districts through which she travels, yet a lady travelling to India for such a purpose, from a distant part of the globe, has from time to time had a considerable influence upon the male natives, and the treatment of the women so closely confined to their houses. Various statements were made to me by parties who had been long resident in the country as to the melan-

choly position in which the native women were placed when disease of any active character attacked them. The medical men of the district were often at hand to treat any case requiring aid, but the custom of the caste prevented entrance to the house, and the women and other portions of the family often sank under disease which might have been cured by medical aid. A recommendation made to Miss Carpenter, was to endeavour to inaugurate, through the Government, a plan for the medical education of women, who being properly educated and certified might successfully help, in cases of need, the inmates of a Hindoo family, there being no objection to the admission of a female, although a male is denied access. Miss Carpenter, I understand, took up the subject, and pointed out the necessity for it; but in the shifting population of the European, the importance of the question requires a good deal of ventilation before the Government takes up such matters. The question, however, being thus raised, some good will likely be done ere a few years elapse. Miss Carpenter has also been instrumental in her last journey in calling the attention of the Government to the condition of the prisons in India, and also to the state of the juvenile criminals; and it is understood that the Government are now quite alive to both subjects, and will create reformatories upon localities apart from towns and cities.

*25th December, 1875.*—We have now arrived at

a Christmas in India, and the native gardener has, during Christmas eve, ornamented the whole of the outside of the house with large trees of the banana, and with rows of various coloured flowers from the garden, chiefly yellow and purple, and gracefully hung in clusters, along each side of the entrance, the whole most tastefully arranged, and presenting an appearance which might have done credit to some portions of a horticultural show in our own country. Then in the hall of the house, there was a large bouquet of flowers placed upon a table of a most *recherché* character, tastefully laid out in various compartments—the chief colours of the flowers being white, yellow, red, crimson, and purple, thus forming a tray of upwards of fifty bouquets, and presenting an appearance highly creditable to the native gardener, all done in honour of the Burrah Shahib and Mem Shahib. This being a holiday among all the English part of the people, we had a most pleasant journey into the jungle and woods of the neighbourhood, a few miles distant from our house. A boat was launched upon a river flowing out of one of Turcouleah lakes; and our party, consisting of five, with natives at each end of the boat, sailed up the river Dehontie, amid a beautiful panorama of tropical trees and variegated shrubs, including the cane-shrub—a scene quite delightful to behold.

We took nearly an hour to get up the river, and the gentlemen, having their guns, endeavoured to get some

sport, as we lazily moved along. The birds which were prevalent on the waters, and of most beautiful and variegated plumage, sat with composure at the sight of the sportsman, but no sooner was the aim taken and the shot fired, even at a very short distance, than the swiftness and sagacity of the bird cheated the sportsman, the birds diving under the water with a swiftness and agility quite remarkable. Four shots at these birds were made without effect, and all of them, including the chief of these, the "kingfisher," got off scot-free. We then landed upon the banks of the river, and planted ourselves at the head of a lake, having in sight a large reach of water at one end, and extensive pasture-fields at the other. Upon the fields there were large and extensive herds of cattle and goats browsing on the meadows and attended by natives, the whole having a most picturesque appearance. By arrangements previously made, a portion of the servants had forwarded and erected a tent—had prepared an excellent repast, with all the accompaniments of an enjoyable picnic in the open air in the mid-winter of India. The repast was disposed of with the greatest zest, and while the sun was beaming over our heads, we were well protected by the tent, thus thoroughly enjoying the whole scene around us, with its charming air and gentle breeze, forming a contrast to the usual Christmas weather in our English homes. While a portion of the party sat enjoying this scene, others went into the jungle with

the gun, and for a short time had fair sport. Returning to Turcouleah by another route, a carriage and pair was at our command, and we reached home from this festive and singular scene as the sun was gorgeously setting in the west, leaving the recollection of one of the most singular Christmas days I have spent throughout a long life.

It was our intention to have renewed this festive scene upon New-Year's day, but an event suddenly came about, which tended to alter some of our plans for the time. To the surprise of all the family, and especially of the natives, my daughter was taken suddenly ill, upon the morning of the 29th December, 1875, and gave birth to a handsome female child about six o'clock that morning. The event came off so suddenly and unexpectedly, there was no one present but her husband and the ayah or maid. Dr. Hill, however, being conversant with his profession, the mother and child were comfortably cared for, until a medical man arrived from Segoulea, and a temporary nurse from Mutihari was obtained. This event having taken place, of course altered most of our plans; and the interest among the natives at the birth of the child was very great. The family have been so long resident upon these lands; they are looked upon as the "rajahs" of the country; and accordingly, when the news arrived that a fourth generation of the Hill family had been born upon the estate, there was great interest created among the native population, and a

circumstance occurred which showed how much the natives were attached to the family. An old ayah and pensioned servant residing at Barrha, about twenty miles distant, came in her feeble health and great age in a small bullock cart to see the mother and child. The ayah is the same native woman who nursed Dr. Hill in infancy, and, therefore, has seen the fourth generation of the family among whom she has lived. She is very old-looking, bent in appearance, and can only hold an upright position from a staff in her hand, with which she hobbles about. On looking at her, I found she had a good development of head, an aquiline nose, and must have been in her day an active and industrious servant. She belongs to the Mossel Sheik caste. I had a conversation with her by interpretation. She took the child in her arms, and after some expressions in her own language, drew grey hairs from her head, scattered them on the baby's head; then again drew grey hairs from her head, and scattered them on the mother's head, declaring after she had performed this ceremony that having now seen Burrah Sahib's child she was ready to die. This was all done with uplifted hands in a serious manner; and evidently to show the attachment she had for the family, and the kindness she had received as a pensioner.

Although the Christmas and New Year are not noticed in the manner of our country by the natives around, they have their own festivals, which are numerous, and are kept most rigidly. On some of

these occasions the goat, of which there are numerous flocks throughout the country, is sacrificed by one man taking the body, another the head, and a third with a sharp instrument cutting it off with one blow. This is usually done under a sacred tree, chiefly under that called the Peepul, and is prefaced by reading and prayers prescribed for the occasion by Faqueers, a class of men of a dirty mendicant appearance, who visit the cottages of the natives, are looked upon by them with great reverence, but are not allowed to come within the compound or park of this or any of the other establishments around. Both the Brahmin and the Faqueer are apparently not subject to any law where the Hindoo is concerned, and accordingly a native causing, either by violence or any other mode, the death of any of these functionaries, the crime is looked upon as of the most serious character, and proscribes the man entirely from society. Seeing the position in which this class is placed, it is a curious fact that a mode of obtaining payment of a debt from a party who is either unable or unwilling to pay, is practised by the Brahmin. It seems to be peculiar to this country. It is called "sitting dharna." When the debtor refuses to pay, the Brahmin seeks out the house and person of the debtor. He sits down with destructive instruments in his hand. He threatens to use them if the debtor should attempt to pass or molest him in his situation. The Brahmin fasts, and he attempts also to cause the debtor to fast, and remains

thus at the door of the debtor till satisfaction or payment is obtained ; his perseverance is so great, and the public annoyance to the debtor is so severe, that he almost always succeeds in obtaining his object. The secret of his success, is the inviolability of the person of the Brahmin, for, if the debtor was supposed to cause the Brahmin to perish by hunger, the crime would for ever lie upon the head of the debtor, which could not be expiated either in this or the next world. This curious mode of concussing a debtor has been long in operation in various parts of India, but since the institution of courts of justice at the Brahmin's headquarters in Benares, the practice is not now so frequent ; and in order to completely stop it, a law was passed making the practice illegal, but even this has not prevented subsequent "dharna" being practised—the Brahmin sitting in the manner described at his debtor's door, but taking advantage at the same time, while the debt is unpaid, to take his food from the table of the debtor.

*MY DEAR AGNES,*

*Now that I have reached nearly the limit of the country I have spent so pleasant and profitable a time in, chiefly through the kindness of your husband and yourself, and being about again to embark from the shores of this wonderful empire to take another voyage in our grand steam yacht, called "The P. & O." I must adopt you as another of my imaginary correspondents, and devote the future pages of my Journal to your kind attention, promising, though it may be dull reading, it may prove interesting to you in your residence in the country and among the people described.*

## LETTER III.

*January, 1876.*—We are now beginning to end our interesting stay at Turcouleah, and have had numerous visits from parties in the neighbourhood, among others from the bookkeeper and accountant of the factory, with whom I have had a long conversation. He is an educated man, and speaking English fluently, we got on remarkably well. On leaving he took a kind farewell, and expressed himself thus, “Farewell, I shall pray to the Almighty Father to send you a prosperous and safe voyage, and that you will be restored in good health to the bosom of your happy family.”

So I parted with Gorse, having formed a very high opinion of him, as a valuable servant upon the estates. I name this case to show that, among the various Hindoo castes, similar types of talent and education are to be found throughout India. The evening before I left there was a considerable movement in the adjoining village, and rejoicings as if on the eve of a festival. A peculiar sound was heard from an instrument, which reverberated through the air of the evening, and

attracted our attention so much, that the natives were requested to come up to the house to show us how the sound was produced. They accordingly brought a very large shell open at one end, and the native who held it produced the sound with immense vigour ; neither Dr. Hill nor I could manage to bring any sound out of the shell ; and when we had both tried it unsuccessfully, the shell was returned to the native to give some more sounds upon it, upon which he immediately demurred, and refused to touch it, as the article had been held and put to the lips of parties not of their faith, or in other words, of infidels. The shell, it seems, is looked upon as a consecrated article by the Hindoos, and is used in some of their religious ceremonies. Another pure and uncontaminated shell was accordingly got, and the operation performed as it had been done before, but the shell that had been touched by an infidel, and desecrated, was left in our hands, and was brought by me to England as a sort of Hindoo curiosity.

We now are setting out for our journey towards Barrha, to meet our friend Mr. Begg, who generously agreed to accompany me to Bankipore, and through a portion of India I had not yet visited. On the morning of departure we were surrounded by a large number of the various servants from the house, and from the garden and neighbouring cottages, in order to take farewell of the Bhurra Sahib, by which name I went while resident in the country. The heavy part of

my luggage, placed upon a bullock cart, was entrusted to two native servants, and went on to Bankipore railway station, by the direct route across the Ganges, with instructions to remain at the station until we arrived. Prompt and faithful to their trust, these natives were found in their place many days after parting, and the whole luggage safely delivered. It is quite remarkable the faithfulness with which servants of this character are found traversing the country, and performing their duties with activity, honesty, and intelligence, rewards or "tipping" for doing duty not yet being known among them.

Remarkable specimens of a caste very peculiar in India, and of a tribe near approaching the Bheals, are located near Barrha. They are secret plunderers, and rob people in various parts of the country; but notwithstanding this feature, the head men among them are often taken by families as night watchmen or "chockadores." One of these has been in the employment of the Hill family at Turcouleah since the days of the Mutiny of 1857. He ranges, with a long staff sometimes higher than himself, round the whole premises from sunset to sunrise, and wards off all comers. He does this duty faithfully and successfully, and although it is the practice to leave many doors unlocked, nothing of importance has hitherto been missed in the whole establishment. Although he is thus faithful to his master, he would have no objection to joining his comrades in plundering other people. This

caste is not numerous, and is now well looked after by the heads of villages, and is known to the Government. My bearer Juan is another example of the faithful castes in India. He hails from Guzerat, and although he was unwilling to name the caste to which he belonged, we all thought he was a Sudra or Shepherd man, and was faithful to a degree in adhering to the principles of his caste. He waited constantly upon me both at bath, dressing, at table, slept alongside of my bedroom, tasted nothing of the food used by me or brought to table, taking his own mixture from his own pot and kettle which he carried, and visiting the village bazaar to take his victuals. Juan on entering my service made an accurate inventory of every article of clothing, and on leaving at Calcutta I found everything had been delivered to me as specified in the inventory he made at entering my service. I name my experience of Juan to show that all over India similar examples of faithful servants are to be found.

We now reached Barrha, which I have before described, and had the pleasure of remaining a couple of days in the hospitable house of Mr. Begg.

*18th January, 1876.*—On early morning we set off for Mufzerpore, and reached the place of a race meeting about mid-day. We travelled through a most beautiful country of rich alluvial soil, and threw ourselves upon the hospitality of the parson of the place. Mr. Richardson is a gentleman who has been for some

time in this neighbourhood, has a very nice bungalow, a church alongside of it, and traverses the country performing services as an English clergyman. He is an intelligent man, well educated, has the usual hospitable house of India, and entertains his friends with great politeness and modesty. He accordingly, in traversing the country in discharge of his duties, is received always with urbanity and kindness. At his house we met with two engineers, one of them, Mr. Stevens, a very intelligent and cultivated man. He had charge of the estates of the Rajah of Drubungo, whom I have alluded to in previous notes. We drove to a magnificent park in the neighbourhood of the town, where the races and other amusements were being held. On arrival there we found a large number of carriages, and parties chatting with each other, and amidst the fineness of the weather and the beauty of the scenery around, apparently enjoying themselves to the full. I had previously met with several of the parties, and was well pleased to renew my acquaintance with many of them. The gentlemen were now engaged in polo playing. Two parties in the large compound or park, each having about twelve players, all mounted on the ponies of the country, divided into sides, and swiftly pursuing the contested ball, made the whole a sight of great interest, and was watched by the onlookers with considerable excitement. The scene was very interesting to a traveller, and not often seen unless in this part of India. The

Champaran and Tirhoot polo players consider themselves the foremost in India, and are seldom beaten with players from other parts of the country. Among the parties who were present, Mr. Begg introduced me to his friend, the young Maharajah of Darbungo, with whom I had a conversation. He has been taught and speaks English fluently, is a youth about fifteen years of age, with a moderate-sized head, and intelligent and kind disposition. His younger brother, who was in the carriage with him, is fairer in complexion than his brother, and perhaps more talented, speaking English with fluency. Both will turn out intelligent princes and chiefs, should they not be got under the wing of the Brahmins, and the women connected with their court. I advised both the young gentlemen to visit England, where they would be received with kindness and favour. As mentioned in previous notes, the estates will be free from debt by the time the older of the two attains majority—they will then be in possession of the enormous fortune of £220,000 a year, and might attract the attention of some English lady. Returning to Mr. Richardson's house we spent a very pleasant afternoon, and in the course of our conversation, Mr. Richardson alluded to the position of the native priests in India, and referred to the absence of converts by the missionaries of other nations in this part of the interior of India. He denounced in strong terms both the Brahmins and Faqueers, looked upon them as unprincipled men,

and in their power over the native one of the great curses of India. He, as well as Mr. Begg, who had been so long in India, considered that the time was coming when the government of the Empire would require actively to interfere in diminution of their authority, in order to protect the natives, and this seems to be an opinion very prevalent among all the people to whom I have spoken on this subject.

*19th January, 1876.*—Very soon after the rising of the morning sun, we proceeded on our journey towards Bankipore, after taking a farewell of our friends. Through the kindness of Dr. Hill and his friends, horses had been planted for our journey along the road we had to travel until we reached Hadgipore, where we had our morning lunch. Hadgipore is the seat of a great market, and is upon the margin of the river Ganges. It is situated immediately opposite Bankipore, and is the centre of great gatherings of natives from all parts of India at certain periods of the year. They arrive there in numerous parties for the purpose of washing their bodies in the holy waters of the Ganges. The numbers collected at various festivals have been so great, that an outbreak of pestilence has often been feared. Recently, in order to avoid such a calamity, the Government have been obliged to parcel out various localities around Hadgipore, limiting the numbers settling upon each spot, and effecting a sort of drainage for their necessities while located. In

this way the health of the mass has been improved, and the religious ceremonies and washing proceeded with, minus the number of deaths recorded previous to the action of the Government. We tarried considerable time in the bungalow of this place, and found upon reaching the margin of the Ganges that the steamer for the opposite shore had sailed ; we were, therefore, obliged to betake ourselves to one of the native boats which was carrying a load of goods and passengers. This proved to be a tedious mode of travel. The whole management, of course, was left to the native bargemen, and the stream being so rapid, the breadth of water so great, and the fear of snags and sandbanks so considerable, it took four hours to reach the opposite shores. It was, however, one of the experiences of a former mode of transit in India, which gave a traveller some insight into the mode of conveyance in the absence of railways and steamers in the country. On reaching the other side of the Ganges we expected to find a native carriage to meet us, but it failed to make appearance, and we were obliged, on leaving the boat, to walk as we best could on the sinking sands alongside of the river, with a broiling sun over our heads. In our passage to the interior a gentlemen met us on horseback, and recognized Mr. Begg, with whom he was intimately acquainted many years ago. It turned out to be Mr. Cowley of Bankipore, who was the Deputy Civil Service Commissioner at that station. On hearing of our difficulties, and

that we had missed the train for the day to Calcutta, he entered kindly into our views, and during a portion of our conversation the native carriage appeared. Mr. Cowley, like one of the true Samaritans of India, said, "You must drive to my house and spend the night." We accordingly did so, and were hospitably entertained till the train came up next mid-day to carry me to Calcutta. This is one of the instances of kindly feeling among Europeans in this country that leaves a charming impression upon the traveller. I may incidently mention here that during the three months I was in India only two nights were spent by me in hotels—my own name and that of the Hill family proved to be sufficient for all the kindness shown me. After spending the afternoon and evening with Mr. Cowley, Mr. Begg and I reluctantly parted, he on his return to Barrha, and I for Calcutta.

While at Bankipore, which is the civil station of the city of Patna, planted on the banks of the Ganges, Mr. Cowley advised me to drive through this long city, which has a population of about 700,000, and stretches along the banks of the Ganges about six miles upon a raised beach of considerable height, so as to be beyond reach of the floods. All along the road there is a magnificent view of the river and of the opposite shore in the direction of Hadgipore. The whole of the surrounding country is of alluvial soil, and richer than many parts of Champaran. The larger portion of this territory is occupied in the planting of

opium, and at the further end of the town the Government have an establishment for its preparation, packing, and transmission to China. I called at the works of the Government, and was kindly received by Dr. Durant, the chief officer under Government. The crops having been prepared and sent off, there was very little doing in the works, so that I made my visit short and returned again through the interesting and remarkable native city of Patna.

It is well known that, previous to the Mutiny, Patna was the chief centre of disaffection to the English power. It had long been the seat of a caste called the "Wahabee," alluded to in previous notes, and of the Mohamedan families who were formerly in power at Lucknow and Delhi. They collected in this city in order to combine and endeavour to obtain their lost power. These castes, therefore, formed the chief instruments of danger during the Mutiny. So secretly were their plans laid and carried out, that the then existing Government were kept ignorant both of their power and their movements. The only gentleman, then resident in Patna, who had a suspicion of their intentions was William Taylor, Esq., the then sub-commissioner under Sir F. Halliday. He marked out in his own mind three leaders of the cabal, and silently took possession of them, and, without sending them to prison, retained them under his own eye, and in his own house. The chief commissioner did not approve of his sub's con-

duct, and after the danger was partially over, the three men were set at liberty; and so innocent were both Halliday and Lord Canning, the then Viceroy, of the character of these men, that the Government decorated them after being set at liberty, and Mr. Taylor was relieved of his duty; but, extraordinary as it may appear, these same "Wahabees" were found out to be mixed up with a plot, and having been accused successfully of some crimes in connection with it, were degraded and sent to the Andaman Islands as prisoners. Notwithstanding the remonstrances from Mr. Taylor and many of his friends, no restoration to his former office has been offered him, nor any notice taken of the service of Mr. Taylor in the matter, nor the blundering of the governor then in power in his district. During the Prince's visit to Calcutta, Mr. Taylor, though then crippled with gout, resolved to appear at Court, in order to show himself and maintain the services he had thus been to the Government; and though then not looking for employment, wished only a recognition of his services by some act of the Viceroy in decoration. Although at the Government House he was most kindly received, no further notice was taken of his services during the early part of the Mutiny of 1857. Governments seldom like to confess blunders.

On Friday morning, the 21st January, 1876, I arrived in Calcutta; and Mr. Sutherland, a friend of the Hills and cousin of my friend Mr. Begg of Barrha,

had a messenger waiting for me at the railway station. The journey having been made during the night, little was seen of the country, but it appeared to be one continuous plain, with ranges of mountains to the west and south in the distance, indicating that near the base of these mountains fields of minerals might be in existence, which some day would come into development as manufactures and the traffic of railways increased.

I was now planted in a large house on the Couringeé Road, with splendid apartments and numerous native servants, and had, during my introduction to the great seat of government and trade, the advantage of meeting a number of gentlemen having position and trust in the management of the Empire. I was very much pleased with the kindness shown to the traveller, who, from his short experience, propounded his views upon various questions of interest, both military, financial, and internal development by railways. All the gentlemen seemed anxious to obtain the opinions of an outsider, and I was pleased to find that they coincided with some of my criticisms and remarks. It appeared to me marvellous that, coming from the isolated portion of India where I had been residing, a few trained heads of departments such as I saw, could, with the assistance of the civil and military agencies, be able to control and keep the peace among not less than 238,000,000 people, and that with about 130,000 Europeans, military, civil, and mercantile;

that the Government of the day should so wisely conduct the affairs of the country, as to keep a population so large in comparative peace and, save in times of famine, in comparative comfort. When the question is looked at in this light, it must be thought by all unprejudiced parties, that the management and control of India by Great Britain is one of the most marvellous designs for the amelioration of the human race that has hitherto been presented to the world.

I now spent the larger portion of my time in driving to various parts of this grand city, and, out of courtesy, left my card at Government House—visited the business parts—was introduced by election to the Bengal Club, a most excellent resort for a traveller; became acquainted with various members of the Club, and dined at their weekly reunion. A very good plan is adopted, of having on table one day in the week the same class of dinner for all the members who choose to come. The manager is thus enabled to cater for what is best for the day in the city, and to present such a dinner as enables all who partake to be satisfied.

The kind and hospitable lady, Mrs. Sutherland, drove me to every quarter she thought of interest—at one time to a garden party, at another a special native party, and regularly in the afternoon to a popular drive through the esplanade, passing the Government house, and on to a drive along the banks of the Hoogley, which is always filled by a vast variety of ships of all nations. In the midst of these journeys,

crowds of the native Bengalese are to be seen. You can see from their larger proportions, and the black and darker skins, that they belong to a race different from those I had left behind me. The whole native population here are apparently occupied in some trade or other calling, and are seen actively moving about, and present, as you drive through the city, a most interesting spectacle. Many of the natives belong to the better class, and are sometimes seen with European dress, and imitating the English with its pot hat, but by far the largest number retain the native garments. At one of these pleasant parties I met with an interesting Russian gentleman who had been introduced to my friend Mr. Sutherland—his name is Count Elmpt (alluded to in previous notes). He hailed from the borders of the Russian portion of the Baltic, was well educated, had the manners and polish of many of the English, and spoke its language fairly; had become a proprietor of land at San Francisco, and proposed making an investment in tea gardens at Darjeeling. Our society was very much pleased with the Count, and to my amusement he turned up again as a passenger on board the ship in which I was travelling to Suez. I thus became acquainted, sitting at table next him, with only a small party on board ship, and found he was well acquainted with various parts of the world. On asking him how he was allowed to remain so long out of Russia, he replied that he paid two pounds a

year for a license to travel, and had not been in his own country for twelve years. He had fought against us in the Crimea; and on my questioning him as to Russian movements on the northern borders of India, he said that the possession of the Caspian sea and other places around was done for the purpose of increasing the commercial importance of their country, and not with the intention of attacking India. In reference to Turkey, he was of opinion the Russian people would never rest until they got possession of Constantinople. To quote his own words—"It might be now, it might be ten, twenty, or fifty years, but that I might rest assured the Russians would ultimately have possession of it."

On Monday evening, before I left the Sutherland family, we were invited to a native party, held in honour of Sir Richard Temple and his lady, and as this was a favourable opportunity of seeing the upper class of the natives of Calcutta, my good friends resolved, partly on my account, to attend. We accordingly went to the house of Nawab Ameer Ali Khan Bahadur, and were courteously received by that gentleman. He was dressed in evening costume, with no pretence to show, and very like that of an English gentleman of the olden school. He received his guests with great politeness, and having disposed of the male portion, offered his arm to the ladies, conducting them to seats. The room was left open in the centre for the performance of a

programme to entertain the company. Sir Richard and Lady Temple were placed properly in the seat of honour, and in various portions of the room around him were gentlemen well known both in India and in this country. Among these were Chief Justice Garth, Hon. Mr. Baring, private secretary to the Viceroy ; Mr. Hogg, Commissioner of the Municipality ; Hon. Mr. Eden, Mr. Hobhouse, and many other parties in European society. There were two native princes of a well known family present on this occasion, one of whom wore a dark velvet dress with a turban of claret colour, and the margin on the front part of his turban, a diamond of the purest character, nearly the size of a chicken's egg. This gentleman was the descendant of Tippoo Sahib, a native prince who long gave trouble to the British Government. The other native princes of note were the sons of the deposed King of Oude. The elder of the two was dressed in a handsome robe, which was literally covered with diamonds, the most gorgeous sight I had ever beheld of these precious stones. The other was modestly dressed, with a turban ornamented with a large diamond. The entertainment consisted of Indian jugglery, music from an instrument of one hundred strings, played upon by the fingers of two natives called Ali Khan of Lucknow. They also played upon two Hindostanee instruments. Another man from Lucknow gave us an Indian song. Then we had a specimen of Indian dancing. Three Nautch girls, one

called Sultana, another Deljan, and the third Moonace, performed. The whole exhibition was of a very superficial character—in fact, to a European might be called miserable. The Nautch girls moved their bodies in various ways, but scarcely ever their feet. The sight was amusing for a time, and seemed to be highly enjoyed by the native gentlemen, who appeared in very large numbers, and were of an educated and intelligent type. The whole house was lighted up with variegated lamps, and decorated throughout. In one of the rooms a supper was served for the guests, and the whole was conducted in truly oriental style. One native gentleman I met, Baboo Jagadanarea Mookerjea, an educated gentleman, spoke English fluently, and was trained for and practised as a barrister in Calcutta. This gentleman is a Hindoo of high caste, and has a wife and daughters. To show his anxiety to give up the confinement of the female portion of his family, and their restraint in appearing in public, he invited the Prince of Wales to pay him a visit, which H.R.H. accepted, and with a portion of his suite attended an afternoon reception. He was cordially received, and created great excitement among the ladies of the family. On the appearance of the Prince their gallantry was shown by blowing what are called the conch shells formerly alluded to, which give sounds of a very peculiar character. They are blown as a mark of respect, and are sometimes used in religious ceremonies. The ladies, throwing aside the

conch, strewed flowers along his path as he entered the house, and as he took his seat in the drawing-room, the Hindoo ladies who had been invited threw additional offerings at his feet, until at last the Prince found himself up to his knees in flowers. He was most gracious in manner to all around, admiring the unlimited quantity of jewels that were shown him. One of the Hindoo ladies, who spoke English, acted as interpreter, and told the Prince how very much pleased they were that the dream of their life had been accomplished by his presence, and overpowered by his kindness, in coming under their roof. The Prince accepted with pleasure their polite remarks, and said he was sure to tell his mother all about it.

As the Prince had other engagements he asked permission of the Hindoo lady of the house to leave, upon which she said, "He was their god, and they could not presume to grant him leave. The god must take his own departure," at which the Prince smiled, and expressing his good wishes for the health, wealth, and prosperity of the family, took his leave. The conch shells were again set a-blowing, and with clapping of hands and loud cheering they parted with their guest.

It may be proper to explain that the blowing of these shells is looked upon as idol worship, and as the Prince was their god, they greeted him with the sound of the holy shell. This interesting event created some sensation in Calcutta, and for a time the conduct of the

“baboo” was much criticised among his friends. The European portion of Calcutta, however, praised him for his courage, and hoped his example would be followed by many others of the Hindoo caste. Baboo Mookerjea told me, the origin of the shutting up of the female portion of Hindoo families arose from the conquering Mohamedans, whom they suspected of evil intentions upon their families; and the practice of confinement among the Hindoos dated from the usurpation of the Mohamedans about a thousand years ago.

The visit of the Prince in India created a great sensation among the educated people; and in the large towns which he visited, and along the railways upon which he travelled, there was always considerable interest felt. The native princes vied with each other in paying him respect, and assembled with their retainers in great numbers, making such a display of their magnificence as perhaps never has been seen before in India. Various other means were taken to show respect, the most original of which was the delivery of a lecture by Baboo Mallik, at the Family Literary Club of Calcutta, upon the Prince of Wales and his travels. This lecture was delivered in language of a most poetical character, in one part of which he describes what a native prince excels in, and quoted from Banabhatti, one of their classical authors, the description of a prince. The statement is so remarkable that I give it as the lecturer delivered it :—

"He (the prince) must attain perfect proficiency in grammar, logic, metaphysics, civil law, politics, in athletic exercises, in the handling of all sorts of arms and weapons, in driving a chariot, in riding elephants and horses, in playing upon all sorts of musical instruments, in singing and dancing, in disciplining elephants, in discerning the age of horses, in finding out the character of men, in painting, in the solution of riddles, in the recitation from books, in handwriting, in all sorts of plays, in the science of scents, in the science of chirping birds, in astronomy, in the science of precious stones, in working in wood and ivory, in architecture, in medical science, in spells, in administering antidotes of poisons, in making underground passages, in swimming, crossing, jumping, and climbing, in *amatory* arts, in legerdemain, in legendary lore, in dramatic poetry, epigrammatic poetry, in classics, in the Mahavarata, in the Puranas, in the Ramayuna, in all characters, in the vernaculars of all countries, in all sorts of signs, in sculpture, carving, &c., in prosody, and also in other arts."

After various allusions to the magnificence of India—to its gorgeous rivers, forests, lakes, and mountains, torrents, waterfalls and avalanches—the lecturer pointed out the vast indebtedness which Europe owed to Asia, and stated that since the crusades had brought Europe in contact with Asia, the institutions of the former country, with its manufactures, arts, luxuries, and pleasures had received a degree of polish and refinement unknown in the days of her proudest kings. He then alluded to the advantages the Prince had received in a liberal education, and endowed as he was with a taste for classical literature, he would notwithstanding

admit the debt of gratitude which the European owed to Asiatic genius, and in proof of his position the lecturer quoted from *Draper's Human Physiology* the following remarkable sentences :—

“The clock which summons him from his bed in the morning was the invention of the East, as were also clepsydras and sundials. The prayer for his daily bread, which he has said from his infancy, first rose from the side of a Syrian mountain. The linens and cottons with which he clothes himself, though they may be very fine, are inferior to those which have been made from time immemorial in the looms of India. The silk was stolen by some missionaries for his benefit from China. He could buy better steel than that with which he shaves himself in the old city of Damascus where it was first invented. The coffee, he expects at breakfast, was first grown by the Arabians, and the natives of upper India prepared the sugar with which he sweetens it. A school-boy can tell the meaning of the Sanscrit words saccharacanda. If his tastes are light, and he prefers tea, the virtues of that excellent leaf were first pointed out by the industrious Chinese. They also taught him how to make and use of the cup and saucer in which to serve it. His breakfast tray was lacquered in Japan. There is a tradition that leavened bread was first made of the waters of the Ganges. The egg, he is breaking, was laid by a fowl, whose ancestors were domesticated by the Malaccans, unless she may have been, though that will not alter the case, a modern Shanghai. If there are preserves and fruits on his board, let him remember with thankfulness that Persia first gave him the cherry, the peach, the plum. If in any of those delicate preparations he detects the flavour of alcohol, let it remind him that that substance was first distilled by the

Arabians who have set him the praiseworthy example, which it will be for his benefit to follow, of abstaining from its use. When he talks about coffee and alcohol, he is using Arabic words. We gratify our taste for personal ornaments in the way that Orientals have taught us, with pearls, rubies, sapphires, diamonds. Of public amusements it is the same. The most magnificent fireworks are still to be seen in India and China ; and, as regards the pastimes of private life, Europe has produced no invention which can rival the game of chess. We have no hydraulic constructions as great as the Chinese canal, no fortifications as extensive as the Chinese wall ; we have no Artesian wells that can at all approach in depth to some of theirs ; we have not yet resorted to the practice of obtaining coal-gas from the interior of the earth ; they have borings for that purpose more than 3,000 feet deep."

The gentleman continued his lecture in many more such terms, and showed in its delivery and composition an example of what is likely to take place, as the Asiatic mind is educated, in the development and management of the affairs of their own country.

It may now be interesting to show, in relation to the various portions of India, the power which the native princes have in the Empire. Take, in the first instance—

The Maharajah of Patialla is an intelligent ruler, speaks both English and Persian, holds the Grand Cross of India, has a population of about 1,700,000 and a revenue of about £380,000 per year. He gave great assistance to the Government during the Mutiny.

Patialla is one of the Sikh states in the Sirhind plain.

The next native prince we bring under notice is Mohamed Khan, the ruler of Bahawalpur. He is a boy of about fourteen years of age, and is said to be a good polo player; is a manly active youth, and is being brought up under the tuition of the English in a manner that is likely to be serviceable to himself and to his country. When the late Nawab Khan died, the whole of his country was in a state of decay, and his treasury was empty, his officials of all grades unpaid, the army starving, and the whole living upon the people. Under what is called the "Wards Act" the Government took possession of the dominion, and after having had it under their management for nine years, Bahawalpur is now in a flourishing condition. It is well managed, has a good judicial system, and now is considered one of the most flourishing states in India. This principality lies between the Sutlej, the Indus, and the Great Desert, and possesses an income of £180,000. This prince is derived from his ancestor in the last century, who was a slipper-bearer to Peishwar.

The next state to be noticed is Gwalior. It is considered one of the most important in Central India; is governed by Maharajah Scindia, a very enthusiastic soldier, a member of the Grand Cross of India, and has in his country no less than 12,000 villages, an army of upwards of 22,000 men and officers, and a land revenue,

tributaries, &c., making his annual income £855,000 a year.

The next of our chiefs is Maharajah Holkar, a member of the Grand Cross of India, who governs Indores, one of the Maharatta states. It has an area of upwards of 8,000 square miles. This prince belongs to the Sudra or Shepherd caste, which is the lowest of the whole tribes of India. He is a keen financier, and with a population under 600,000, has an army of 28,000, with a revenue of £300,000 a year.

The next chief we have to notice is the Maharajah of Jeypore. This gentleman is a member of the Grand Cross of India, rules over a state containing one of the fairest cities in India, and it is said to be built with remarkable regularity of stone and finished with stucco. The buildings of the palace, court-yards, and gardens, surrounded by noble sheets of water, occupy a large portion of the city, and within the palace there are a mint for coining, an observatory for studying the heavens, a large stud of elephants, and an equally large stable of horses. The temples of the city are said to be of the purest Hindoo architecture, and built on a grand scale. This prince is looked upon as one of the most able and enlightened rulers of India, has always been on friendly terms with the Government, and holds a place in the legislative council of the Viceroy. The estimated revenue of his dominions is said to be upwards of £420,000.

Rajah Rama Warma is the name of the Prince of

Travancore. This gentleman is stated to be a most amiable and accomplished gentleman. He is a member of the Grand Cross of the Civil Service of India, and has recently made a tour of the Indian Empire. He rules over a country in the far south of India, and near the Indian Ocean. It is said to be a rich though a damp country, and was brought under the rule of the ancestors of the present ruler at an early period. The state has an area of upwards of 6,000 square miles, with a population of about 1,300,000; out of this it is said the rajah draws annually nearly £1,000,000 sterling, and the expenditure of the state is under £600,000 per year. The prince therefore conducts the affairs of this part of India in a most able manner, and rules over one of its most flourishing native states.

We have now to introduce the Maharajah of Benares, a ruler of great importance in India, an old nobleman of benevolent disposition, living in a picturesque castle overlooking the Ganges as it runs past Benares. Benares is the metropolis of holy cities in India. It is ornamented with numerous palaces and temples rising on the left bank of the river; its streets, of a narrow description, are always crowded with pilgrims and priests carrying their garlands to the shrines of the temples, or descending to be bathed in the waters of the holy river. Nothing can exceed the veneration in which this city and its magnificent river are held by the people; it is looked upon as holy ground, and for hundreds of generations people have bathed in its

waters and knelt on its sands in the attitude of devotion, and now, as a thousand years ago, are to be found devout pilgrims thronging from all parts to the Benares banks of the Ganges, to worship in its temples and bathe in its waters. The Maharajah of Benares is a Brahmin of the highest caste, and has always been of a friendly disposition towards the ruling powers of India.

We have now to notice the Rajah of Mysore, whose age is about fourteen years. He nominally rules over a country formerly under Tippoo, but at the beginning of the present century was made over to a descendant of the ancient ruler, owing to the misrule of the ancestors of this boy. The management of this country was undertaken in 1832 by the British, and has since been administered under a local government with a chief commissioner. The improvement under this rule has been so good that the Government have determined to restore it to the youth we have named, when he shall attain majority. The country of Mysore ranges over a table-land rising from 3,000 to 6,000 feet above the level of the sea, and although no account can be given of its population and revenue, the country is said to be as large and not less populous than the kingdom of Bavaria in Germany.

The Maharajah of Kolapore is a boy of eleven years of age, and rules over the remnant of the Maharatta Empire. He is said to be a descendant of Sivaji. The state of Sawantwari is ruled over by another prince of

twelve years of age. These two countries represent about 4,000 square miles, have a population of about 1,000,000, and a revenue of about £160,000 a year. The youths are the representatives of the great political chiefs of the last century, and are both being educated by a tutor, the whole management of their minority being undertaken by political officers of the British Government. On attaining majority they will become independent princes in this part of India.

We have now to notice one of the most enlightened noblemen of India, the Maharajah of Viziangram. He is a highly educated gentleman, an intelligent friend of the British Government, a knight of the Grand Cross of India, and a member of the Supreme Legislative Council of the Viceroy. He is one of the chiefs of the northern Sirkars. These chiefs since 1802 exercise no judicial functions, but are looked upon as land-owners. The principal of these is the prince under notice, who, as before stated, is a gentleman of most enlightened views. His genial qualities, and the munificence of his hospitality, make him deservedly popular with Europeans. He speaks English with purity, and, among his other accomplishments, is a very skilful billiard player.

It is now our privilege to bring under notice Sir Salar Jung (the gentleman noticed as meeting the Prince at Bombay), one of the ablest and most enlightened statesmen to be found in India. He is the Prime Minister of the Nizam of Hydrabad, the largest

and by far the most important state to be found in India. It is situated in the very centre of the country of the central provinces on the north, the Mysore country on the south, and the Khandiesh and Bombay district on the west and north. It extends to upwards of 95,000 square miles, has a population of upwards of ten millions, the chief part of which belong to the Mohamedan caste. It is called the Moghal Subah of the Deckan, and was founded by Asaulah, who, after a long life of political struggle and intrigue, established his power as subedar of the Deckan in 1774, and made Hydrabad the capital. The present ruler, the Nizam, a boy about twelve years of age, is being educated under the guardianship of Sir Salar Jung, and on attaining majority will become one of the most important native princes in India. At present the whole territory is managed by Sir Salar Jung and another, but as there is a British resident at Hydrabad the Indian Government gives council to the Nizam through this gentleman. The native army of this state ranks 30,000 men of all arms; the chief part are cavalry, among whom are about 6,000 Arabs. The revenue from this important territory is upwards of £1,500,000 sterling a year.

The Maharajah of Bhurtpur rules over a territory of about two thousand square miles. He is called a Ját, and has a population of about 650,000, with an annual revenue of £242,000. This Prince is said to be very jealous of his dignity, and of

course, I suppose, needs careful looking after by the residents at his court.

We have now to notice a portion of India comprising one of the states of the Bombay Presidency. These states are divided into the Mahratta principalities on the south and the Guzerati on the north; the chief northern state of the latter is Baroda, a country which has lately become very prominent, from the trial and deposition of its late ruler, Mular Rao. At the beginning of the eighteenth century, the Guikwars were Mahratta leaders, and farmers of the revenue over a vast region, including among other parts Guzerat and Khandeish. During the latter part of the last century, Bombay acknowledged the Guikwar's independence of the Mahratta chief, and until the deposition alluded to, had been governed by the Guikwar. After the trial of this Rajah, the Indian Government resolved to depose him, and elect another prince. The lot fell upon a young boy, son of Rani Jumnabai, from the Khandeish line of the Guikwar princes, to the cushion or throne of Baroda. Previous to the deposition, this youth was running about the streets of Baroda, only indifferently educated, and with the barest of clothes to cover his nakedness. On being installed to the throne of his ancestors, he was dressed in regal style, and was presented to the Prince of Wales, under the guidance of his prime minister, Sir F. Mudhar Rao, and it is said the jewels belonging to the family, left by the deposed Guikwar, and worn by

the child, were so valuable, that the estimate put upon them when the boy visited the Prince was two millions sterling. This child is now being educated by a native tutor, under the auspices of the English, and the administration of this important state is being conducted by the prince's prime minister under the assistance of a special commissioner and agent-general of the Government of India. Very extensive reforms in the management of the state are now being brought into operation. A high court has been constituted, with two gentlemen from Bombay to preside over it; the education department is being thoroughly reorganized, and a college for secondary education is proposed to be erected at Baroda. Public works of importance are being pushed forward, and the filth of the city, hitherto looked upon as a home for pestilence, is being got rid of. The population of Baroda reaches to upwards of 2,600,000, and the annual revenue is upwards of £1,500,000.

The state of Judpore is ruled over by Maharajah Tukt-Singh, a member of the G.C.S.I. It forms one of the most ancient states in India, being founded about the year 1459 A.D. It possesses an area of upwards of thirty-five thousand square miles, with a population of nearly 1,800,000 souls, and a revenue of about £175,000 per annum.

Among the numerous rulers of India, the only two princesses that have come into prominence are the Sultana and Begum, of Bhopal. These ladies are both

talented and popular. The Begum is decorated with G.C.S.I., and did considerable service to the British Government during the Mutiny. The Begum has laid aside the seclusion of Eastern ladies by attending parties, and openly travelling about. Not long ago she visited Calcutta, and was present at one of the evening parties of the Viceroy, and also at what is called the Chapter of the Star of India. This lady is much esteemed in society, and has been educated with intelligence and care. Bhopal lies between Indore and Sagaron, the southern portion of the Narbudda, a river of about 800 miles in length. It is one of the chief Mohamedan states of Central India, has an area of nearly 7,000 square miles, and a population of upwards of 660,000, with an annual revenue of £137,000.

Looking at the position occupied in India, by these great native princes, with their enormous wealth, ranging in the aggregate of those described above to upwards of an annual revenue of eleven millions sterling—to the strength in armies which they, by treaty, are enabled to maintain—to the breadth of country over which they rule, and to the influence which, for good or evil, they may exercise on the native populations, it becomes a matter of the greatest importance for the peace of India, that the Government should be on terms of friendship with all these powers. It may be impossible, in case of any difficulty, to have all of them upon our side, but the whole work for accomplishing this object apparently resides

in the civil and political agents selected by the Government, and the conduct of these gentlemen again depends upon the education they have received previous to their appearance in India, and upon the sagacity of our rulers in their selection. Looking at the large area over which these native princes and chiefs reign, this seems to be one of the most important matters devolving upon each Viceroy as he succeeds in power to govern this great country.

Independent of the military employed in India, which includes 60,000 Europeans of all arms, and 150,000 Sepoy troops, there are a body of about 190,000 police constables scattered over the area of our rule, and these again are assisted by the watchmen of the village, and by the head men chosen by the villagers. Antecedent to our rule, these village watchmen were the conservators of the peace, from time immemorial, and it is understood that they number now about 200,000. In the lower provinces of Bengal, there are about 23,000 regular district police, independent of the river and railway police, and in the North-Western provinces there are about 27 policemen to every 10,000 of the population. The duties entrusted to these men are chiefly the suppression of infanticide, and also of what are called hereditary thieves, a singular caste not yet extirpated from the early customs of the people. It is a curious fact that, as previously stated, there is often selected from this class one of the caste to superintend and

watch during the night, houses in the midst of Hindoo and Mohamedan populations.

It is especially interesting to observe how the power and influence of England have been brought to bear upon the population of these countries. It is not more than two hundred years since our country had hardly any footing in these dominions. The Dutch took the lead before us, but the jealousy and cupidity of the English were soon aroused, and about the year 1600, a few merchants in London formed a company, with £30,000—a sum considered large at that period of our history—for the purpose of trading with India. This formed the nucleus of the great empire in the East, now presided over by our Queen in the character of Empress.

I refrain from going into the desperate struggles, by which, under the power and genius of Clive, and a host of other statesmen and generals, England obtained, in less than two hundred years, such a commanding power and influence in India. In a country so densely peopled—so filled at that period with native wealth—with many princes and chiefs so apt in war, cunning, and untruthfulness—it is not to be wondered at that our country should have found it impossible to gain a footing, either upon the sea-board or in the interior of India, without battles, treaties, and continued warfare; and those who look now, with a peaceful eye, at the happiness of the people of Great Britain, cannot but be shocked at the continued war-

fare for the possession of various parts of India, which had been carried on, for a hundred years previous to the Mutiny of 1857. From 1760 till 1857 there have been no less than forty-seven wars and battles between the English and the Indians, under eighteen administrations of England, and under the Governors-General of British India.

Since 1857, a more considerate and humanitarian form of governing India has taken place; and while it can by no means be said that we are entirely out of danger in the government of the country, yet the decided firmness of its rulers, both at home and in India, and the universal desire of England to pay impartial attention to the wants of the natives, and to see they are governed by the same equitable laws that are prevalent in our own country, we are less likely to have our power supplanted by any other nation, or combination of powers in Europe. As we progress, however, in the education of the people, and in calling into active service the educated natives of the country, it will, in my opinion, become imperative to hold in the country a much larger force than sixty thousand European soldiers under the English flag.

By pursuing the generous treatment to the native population indicated by the reign of the late Viceroy, and by the increased introduction of railways and telegraphs throughout India, we may now find ourselves capable of repressing outbreaks in some portions

of the country which, before 1857, might have been deemed impossible.

It is no doubt of importance that the officers, civil and military, which are sent into India should be men capable of governing both our own and the native soldiers on the one hand, and the police and village communities on the other. Looking at the qualities of the army and civil service, it may be generally said that it contains men of thorough intelligence, of good ability in the execution of their duties, and from their early introduction into the Indian service, have soon been found able to control large masses of natives, and to exhibit judgment in the management of the territories over which they act. This experience soon teaches them considerable self-reliance and control, and this opinion is confirmed by more than one authority, and especially by an American officer, who said, "The army of India is worth all the cost of the Government to maintain, and is in fact the training-school of British troops. Both men and officers are worthy representatives of the power of Great Britain."

*January, 1876.*—Before leaving the Indian soil, it may be proper to refer to some of the industries now prevalent in this wonderful country. Accordingly we may take as an example the production of cotton. Since the disturbance of supply, during the civil war in America, there has been an immense increase in the breadth of the cotton plant sown and cultivated, chiefly in the Bombay and Guzerat quarters. While its culti-

vation has been extended, the best seed capable of improving the growth and quality of the plant has been obtained; the quantity has not only increased, but the quality has also greatly improved, and thus to a certain extent the growth has taken the place, in European markets, of the production of America; but the necessities of cultivating the food for so dense a population has necessarily limited the area of production of cotton, and while the high prices during the American War increased the fortunes both of European and Indian merchants, a collapse very soon after the cessation of the American struggle took place, and disabled the Indian grower from obtaining the high prices he realized while the American scarcity continued. The Indian mind, however, and especially the Parsee portion of it, was not slow to perceive that the increased production and diminished demand from Europe necessitated the utilization of the large crops brought into existence, and accordingly attention was turned to the manufacture of the article at home. Some of the native princes joined the Parsees and interested themselves in the process of spinning and weaving. In 1873, cotton mills were erected in Bombay and the surrounding country, with nearly 700,000 spindles, and in 1875 there were in course of erection in the same localities, new mills with 360,000 spindles. There were thus in this district 1,000,000 spindles in operation, chiefly owned by the Parsee population, and chiefly

held under the principle of liability companies. In addition to this utilization of the produce of the cotton plant, there are in the neighbourhood of Calcutta four cotton mills, with a capital of £385,000. That sum may be reckoned equal to the cost of 400,000 spindles. There was thus a large power of spinning and weaving cotton in India, without importing the manufactured article from any part of Europe. It is understood that the production of the Bombay district has not been profitable, and the works which spin the yarn are not capable of using any other quality than the coarser numbers in the production of cloth. It may thus prove that the attempt to plant this industry in India may be unsuccessful for a time; but when we look at the facility with which the cotton plant may be grown, and the comparative moderate cost of labour employed in yarn production, it is more than probable that this industry will extend to very large proportions. The chief rock ahead will be the price of coal, needed in the production of steam. For some time to come this may prove a serious difficulty. With the certain extension of railways, the development of coal fields now existing, and hardly as yet known, but not in operation, a generation or two hence may see the active-minded Parsee of India become large cotton yarn and cloth producers, and thus enable the enormous population to be clothed without resort to other countries for the class of goods wanted by the population.

One of the other productions of an extensive character is that of indigo. The seat of the growth of the plant is chiefly in the districts of Tirhoot, Champaran and Sarum and lower Bengal. This portion of India, with its rich alluvial soil, has hitherto been looked upon as its gardens. They form the upper part of Bengal, and the north-west provinces—extending from the Terai of the Nepaul territory to the banks of the Ganges, and apparently, in former ages, were the result of the washings of the Himalaya range of mountains. The soil is generally deep and of the finest quality, and in the rearing of the indigo plant requires as much care as the best garden-land in Europe does at the present day. The plant itself is so delicate, that too much rain on the one hand, or too much drought on the other, may sometimes limit or destroy the production. Accordingly, it has always been a speculative crop to bring to market, sometimes yielding considerable profit, and at other times as much loss. It can only be carried on when the cost of labour is reduced to the minimum, as it is in this country. The cultivation now also suffers competition, from the chemical discoveries made in Europe of what is called annelyne, and other dyes. It would, however, be a disastrous matter for this part of India, were this plant to cease being cultivated, the employment of the dense population in indigo labour would almost cease. In one large estate alone there is not less than 35,000 workers employed, which, taking the moderate rate of four to a

family, indicates 140,000 human beings now in the employment of one firm of energetic planters.

The opium plant being of a similar nature to indigo, is cultivated in these districts to a very large extent, under the protection of the Government, who derive a large revenue from its export to China. The Government are also turning their attention to the cultivation of the tobacco-plant, and should the schemes now in operation at Benares be successful, the chances are that this plant, which may be easily grown in numerous portions of India, may through a moderate duty or tax, ultimately become of great importance in helping its revenue. The difficulty experienced after its cultivation and maturity is to place it in a fit state for market and consumption. Hitherto the alterations of climate have brought upon the plant, after being reaped, smut and rust, and thus limited its usefulness as an article of commerce; but in the experiment now progressing at Benares, well-trained, experienced experts from Kentucky, U.S., are now employed to bring the manufacture to maturity; and should the movement prove successful, it may become of great importance to India and its revenue.

Another interesting article is the cultivation of the tea-plant, reference to which has been made in an earlier portion of the Journal. It can only be produced in climates higher than the average range of land in India. It is, therefore, successfully done in the districts of India bordering upon the dominions of Nepaul and Bhotan.

They are called the Assam, Darjeeling, and Cachar districts. The soil there derives its richness from the droppings of the forest trees, which have in ages long gone by enriched the land. The clearance of some of these forests forms the land of the tea gardens. These are sometimes in large and sometimes in limited areas, which by care and industrious cultivation enable the planter in a few years to bring plants of tea to maturity. Various difficulties, however, exist in cultivation of these gardens. In the districts alluded to, the planter is on the margin of an almost uninhabited country. He finds it difficult to import labour from the plains, and has, in addition to his garden, to provide food from a portion of the soil. The manager or proprietor is for a time isolated from the world, and with nothing to occupy his mind but the care of the coolie and the management of his garden, he is apt to fall sick of his solitude, unless he has considerable resources within himself, and failing the possession of these may indulge to excess in the use of imported beer and other stimulants of the district. Should he be able to overcome such temptations, however, and witness his garden grow from year to year into fruitful cultivation, there can be no doubt that he may ultimately have the return of a considerable income from the produce of the tea plant.

Europeans, as a rule, particularly dislike the native-made spirits, and it is only the most dissipated that even take to it, and only then when poverty drives

them to it. A man can get drunk comfortably on the quantity he can buy with almost the smallest coin current in India.

Tea-seed is not imported now. It can be got from the old gardens in almost any quantity. The China seed first imported into the country was found vastly inferior in every respect to the indigenous and hybrid varieties grown in India.

On clearing the land for the garden, and selecting indigenous and hybrid varieties of seed for the plant, the cultivator finds his difficulties begin. All is outlay. He brings the coolie from the plains, causes the erection of his huts, proceeds to cultivate food for all. He has to provide for his own keep; and such outlays continue, from year to year, until the plants arrive at that maturity necessary to produce the proper tea-leaves; from year to year he sees his gardens grow, and his expenses increase, while the outlays each year add to these. Until the fifth year of his work he is unable to produce an article fit for sending to market, but in that year and the following, he begins to see a moderate crop returning interest on all his outlay. If the gardens are well cared for, in the way they ought to be, an increase of crop should go on from year to year till the twelfth year of the age of the garden is reached. At this period it is supposed that it will be in full-grown vigour, and be capable, with ordinary care and proper cultivation, of producing upon the capital invested a large yearly

return for the labour and anxiety he has so long gone through.

The above narrative, it is believed, forms the history of the best-conducted gardens in the tea districts of India, and should the perseverance of the European population in these districts continue, there seems to be little doubt that the growth of the tea-plant in India will become one of large proportions. The crops have already reached and sent to market twenty-four million pounds weight, and it is understood that the average selling price of the article has been about two shillings per lb. In higher ranges of forest mountain-land in all parts of India, as well as in Ceylon, tea cultivation will be attempted and successfully extend, and the day may not be far distant when, in respect of this article, we may be independent of China.

Jute and flax are also now large productions, especially in the lower portions of Bengal, and form an extensive trade between the manufacturing districts of the east of Scotland and Bengal. Of late the growth of wheat has been increased in considerable quantities, and will now take large proportions. 1876 will probably show 25,000 tons coming to England, and, from its quality, it brings large prices in the English market. As our necessities increase for food cereals, there can be no doubt that this article of production may become of great value to the Indian people. Besides these important articles, there are numerous productions valuable to Europe grown upon the Indian

soil, among which may be mentioned pepper, cardamoms, camphor, cassia, aloes, resin, gums, mustard, aromatics, and essential oil, supposed by some to be the spikenard of the ancients.

We may now return to another subject of an interesting character to be found in this isolated part of India beyond the Ganges. It has been partially alluded to in an earlier portion of the Journal. The descriptions given in many parts of the Old and New Testaments, as recorded in our versions, are now to be seen existing and in operation at the present day. Take for example the 41st verse of the 24th chapter of St. Matthew. It is there recorded "two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken and the other left." It is described in like manner in the 17th chapter of St. Luke, verse 35. Now, alongside the baker's oven at the house of Turcouleah, where I lived, two women were daily sitting at the stones prepared for grinding the corn, to be used in making next day's bread, exactly in the manner described in the two verses above alluded to, and this process has gone on during the four generations the above family have lived in this quarter, and the custom appears not to have been altered since the days when the passages in the New Testament were recorded. Again, in the Old Testament (Deut. xxv. 4) it is said, "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out the corn." Now, the ox in this part of India is employed exactly as described in this verse to tread

out the corn, and the chaff is separated from the corn in like manner by winnowing. In like manner, in referring to Deut. xix. 14, it is said, "Thou shalt not remove thy neighbour's landmark, which they in old times have set in thine inheritance;" and in Deut. xxvii. 17, "Cursed be he who removeth his neighbour's landmark, and all the people shall say, Amen." Now, when I was living at Turcouleah I found that the landmarks throughout the whole of that district consisted, now as of old, of certain tufts of grass in fields belonging to various people, which, in place of the hedges and fences of modern periods, were evidences, as employed in ancient times, to distinguish one man's land from that of another, and accordingly in this district the only method in which the native could point out the land belonging to him, was the universal landmark of the tuft of grass of the various fields. In evidence of this custom, one of the native farmers, when I was present with my friend Mr. Hill, came to him as the "rajah" for the time being, with a tuft of grass and soil attached to it, complaining to Mr. Hill that his neighbour had removed his landmark, the evidence of which was then in his hand, showing that in the present day, as it was in the days when Deuteronomy was written, the offence of the removal of a landmark was as intense then as it was at the time when the above incident occurred.

It is well known throughout India that the goat is reared and forms a portion of the stock of the native,

and is seen around the cottages of the natives and in the fields. The animal is still looked upon as sacrificial, and is used as it was in the days of the Old Testament, when, as it is stated in Leviticus iv. 23, "If his sin, wherein he hath sinned, come to his knowledge; he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a male without blemish: And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the goat, and kill it in the place where they kill the burnt-offering before the Lord: it is a sin-offering. And the priest shall take of the blood of the sin-offering with his finger, and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt-offering, and shall pour out his blood at the bottom of the altar of burnt-offering. And he shall burn all his fat upon the altar, as the fat of the sacrifice of peace-offerings: and the priest shall make an atonement for him as concerning his sin, and it shall be forgiven him." Now, the goat as a sacrificial animal is used at the present day just as quoted above, the Brahmin or Faqueer priest being the operator, which, in Champaran, is generally done upon the rude altars erected under the pepul and banyan trees. After the goat has been sacrificed, the carcass is both cooked and eaten by the family.

Many other instances of the record of the Old Testament, agreeing exactly with the usages of the natives of India of the present day, are in existence. It seems to follow from the above statement, that the authors of the books of the Old Testament were the accurate recorders of what they saw, and were

only inspired, as people are at the present day, in recording the truth.

*28th January, 1876.*—We are now on the eve of starting from Calcutta, after a most successful tour in various parts of India. I have been treated with the greatest kindness by all natives, friends, and parties whom I have met, and among whom I lived. Nothing makes it pleasanter for a traveller in a foreign country to be thus received, instructed, and cared for. In fact, with all the little annoyances that come across one in such journeys, these are left out of account, in the recollection of the kindness one has experienced, and the friendships formed.

So many descriptions have been given of Calcutta, it is unnecessary to say more than that during the winter and spring months the climate is healthful; but in summer it is inferior in climate to those portions of India where I have travelled. Many of the sanatoriums, which are now reached with facility along the railroads, and by excursions down the Hoogly river to inhale the breezes or on a voyage to Madras, Ceylon, Singapore, or Malacca Straits, make a residence in Calcutta pretty tolerable throughout the year.

Among the men whom I met in Calcutta and other portions of India, following their professions as merchants, as planters, as civil servants or military officers, including lawyers both native and European, and gentlemen connected with the more direct control and

management of the affairs of the country, it struck me that all of them were types of character, education, and mind, of a class superior to the like class of men a traveller meets with in any other part of the world. This, to a certain extent, explains the enigma that what may be looked upon as a handful of Europeans, should be able to govern a country now containing two hundred and thirty-eight millions of people.

On the 27th January we started from Garden Reach, Calcutta, on board the steamer "Surat." Although the ship was to sail early in the morning, our kind friends, Mr. and Mrs. Sutherland, drove me to the ship, saw me on board, and introduced me to some companions for the voyage, and to the captain of the ship. We passed down the Hoogly at a moderate pace, with not more than twenty-five passengers on board.

There is considerable sameness in passing down this sluggish river. At a distance from its shores are to be seen bungalows of natives and some large factories. When you get into a wide reach of the waters, there are large areas of cultivated lands on one side of the river. We now approach a station called "Sandheads." This channel of the Hoogly is one of the most dangerous navigations in India. The mouths of the Ganges, including those of the Bramaputra, flow into the ocean to the east of the Hoogly and running at an angle different from waters, the latter meets, at certain large banks of sand and mud,

usually denominated "Sandheads." By the constant supply of these mouths of the channel, diminishing or increasing according to weather, it is sometimes so altered, as to require the greatest sagacity, in finding out the proper course for the ship to take. The danger is so great, that no ship of importance passes down without a pilot. In many instances, ships have been found, by missing the channel, to cant, and sink in the sludge thus created, giving little or no warning to any one, or to those on board. The ship goes out of sight, and is never seen again. The intelligent pilot on board, appointed by the authorities in Calcutta, told us that in one case, two ships collided, both went down and were never seen again. A case of a like kind was told to us, when in the upper part of Bengal, by a young man Dixon, who was saved from a ship bound for Liverpool. The ship missed the channel and went to the bottom in the manner indicated above.

*February, 1876.*—We now approached Madras, the chief city of Southern India. This was the first settlement of our countrymen, so long ago as the early part of the seventeenth century. We arrived about 10 A.M. As the ship did not start till the evening, we had a whole day before us, and a number of our fellow-passengers took advantage of this break in our voyage, and went on shore to examine the interior of the city, and its surroundings. On casting anchor we were surrounded by a swarm of native boats, each having

twelve to fourteen men on board. No entreaty could drive these natives off the ship. They scrambled up its sides, with the facility of monkeys climbing up a tree. Some were knocked off by the seamen on board, but when opportunity occurred, up they got again, till a portion of the deck of the ship was crowded with them; and they could only be kept in one portion, by a stick in the hands of the sailor. These natives are a sort of caste by themselves; they are of a low type, and avaricious beyond belief. One of the boats being hired, some of our party after a struggle got on board, and the whole of the natives then settled down, and pulled the boat ashore. The swell of the sea is often so great as to prevent the boat landing its passengers, and thus the large crews are required to manage the boat. Fortunately the ocean was calm, and we landed without any further difficulty, than striding on the shoulders of a native, to free ourselves from being dipped into the water. These boats are made of a peculiar description, so as to resist the surge so prevalent on the shore. They are formed of planks, are broad in beam, and in place of being nailed, caulked, and tarred, the planks are sewn together on each side of the boat. On landing, the babel of tongues again commenced, and beyond the fare—which was two and a half rupees, or five shillings—incessant demands were made for “backsheesh.” This demand, however, was resisted, only to be taken out of us when the ship was again to be reached; and then nothing less than

seven shillings would satisfy them to put our party on board. It was, however, interesting to witness this exhibition of humanity; and although a traveller now for the first time in India hears the word "backsheesh" used by a native, it is a word of constant employment by the natives, throughout the Red Sea and Egypt, and till you reach the shores of the Adriatic.

On being safely landed, I drove throughout the larger portion of Madras, taking a round of the city on the margin of the sea, through the native portion, saw various temples, ornamented in an unusual manner, betokening a religious festival. There are a good many public buildings of a fair character—the government and club houses well situated, various handsome bungalows belonging to natives; the fort, of a large character, well appointed with all appliances, with pools filled with water, bridges, works, and premises for accommodating a large force of troops of all grades, including apartments for arms, and for work of all necessary characters. A large portion of the city is surrounded by a canal of salt water, which, from its flow with the tides, must be of considerable importance to the health of the people. The natives, however, will not bathe in the salt water, and confine their ablutions to the tanks, of which there are many in the city of a splendid character. The chief part of the city runs along shore, where are situated merchants' godowns, railway offices and stations, &c. The great want of the city for increasing its commerce, is a

comprehensive system of landing piers, and docks, capable of enclosing a portion of the bay outside the tidal wave. A scheme has now been begun to make such accommodation, and there can be little doubt, when completed, it will render great assistance to the trade of the city and the surrounding countries.

The population of Madras is, like that of other portions of India, situated along the sea board, and is of a much more mixed character than is seen among the natives of the interior. The men are taller in stature, and the women appear to be better developed in their appearance, than those of a like kind in Calcutta or in the interior. The women here carry loads upon their heads, walking with erectness, and with the air of princesses. By the aid of the schools established in Madras called Anderson's and Grant's schools, and other institutions, the natives and Eurasians, who attend in large numbers, show their aptitude, both in public offices and at the railways, in speaking intelligible English, and are seemingly of a better class than the Hindoos or Mohamedans of either Calcutta or Bombay. One of these I saw at a railway station, having the second command under an Englishman. He was tall in stature, with a round type of head, spoke English with great fluency; dressed as a native gentleman, had diamond studs in each ear sufficiently large to have brought twenty pounds a piece in England, and seemed to feel, as the Vicar of Wakefield did, "passing rich on £60 a year" of salary.

A large number of such natives, in and around Madras, are of an equally intelligent appearance and character, and by proper treatment and training are likely to become important elements in continuing the peace prospects and settlement of this important part of India.

Feeling desirous, when in Madras, to visit that portion of the city set apart for the erection of memorials of eminent men, I first came to that dedicated to General Neil. It forms a statue of full length, standing in still life upon a grand pillar, executed with considerable skill, and apparently a striking likeness of the man. Neil being a Scotchman, and educated at Ayr Academy, where I got a large portion of my grounding and training, I took special interest in witnessing this memorial. Neil, had he lived, would have been a prominent character in India. During the mutiny of 1857, he hastened from Madras to Calcutta, having the command of some well-trained troops, and in the midst of excitement, pushed on to Patna, one of the centres of dissatisfaction during the mutiny. On his arrival at the station of the railway, in Calcutta, the train was about to start. He asked that it should stop till his men came forward. So little was thought by the railway officials of the importance of quick manœuvring, that the station-master on duty declined to stop the train. Neil, knowing the importance it was to proceed to the scene of action with quickness, and having been unable to overcome the scruple of the

station-master, at once placed a guard upon the engine, and dared the men in charge to start till the troops came up. By this bold and successful act, he arrived in time at Patna to put down with the greatest vigour the rising in that district, coming to maturity, and thus saved that part of India from scenes like that of Lucknow and Cawnpore. No doubt in times of peace it might be said, he had exceeded his powers, but in the trembling times of the period, necessity had no law. Neil received loud praises from the peaceable people for his conduct, and amidst the strife which subsequently occurred, he received his death wounds on the battlefield. Neil belonged to an ancient race from the county of Ayr, where his family resided for many generations. So interested and satisfied were the people of the county with his heroic conduct, that they erected a statue in Ayr of a character similar to that in Madras, to commemorate his memory. Among the other statues of Madras, there are other two worthy of notice, one of Sir Thomas Munro, who was also a native of the west part of Scotland. He was a man of considerable talent, and exercised in his day large authority and consideration, during the latter part of the last century. This statue shows Sir Thomas sitting upon a handsome and well-formed horse. It is the work of the celebrated sculptor Chantrey, and is one of the most perfect specimens of riding sculpture to be seen in any country.

The other statue is that of Lord Cornwallis, a man

whom the natives, Zemindars, and other holders of land in Bengal have every reason to remember with gratitude. It was his Lordship who inaugurated and brought into operation the celebrated treaty of 1793. The statue is of marble, and shows the noble lord in a sitting position, with a dress and appearance of the time of an English nobleman, seemingly of the old school. He has a kind-hearted look. His head is sculptured, indicating the reflective portion moderate, his perceptive organs considerable, and his benevolence full. The marble indicates the possession of a large head.

*2nd February, 1876.*—On the morning of the 2nd February we started for Point de Galle, in Ceylon, with an addition to the passengers of several Europeans, leaving Southern India for England. It is a curious trait of character, in travelling home by the ships of the P. & O. Company, to witness the difference there is in the manners of the travellers. In going out to India by the same line, we are thrown into the society of ladies and gentlemen, accustomed to the mixture of various races and classes throughout England. The return voyage, however, to England, with the like class of people lessened in number, exhibits quite a different phase. They have been living in India for a lengthened period, and in the midst of a population so thoroughly dependant on and apparently inferior to them—their minds get imbued in so considerable a degree with the importance of self, that they make the society during the voyage home

somewhat different from that of going out. They are more reserved in their manners, or get among parties who can talk about India, and its inhabitants, and look often askance at the outside traveller, whose acquaintance with that country has often been of a temporary and transient character. Thus a hard line is drawn between the self-satisfied passengers among many of those returning to England for a run or permanent residence at home. This was seen peculiarly prominent on board the "Surat." When we arrived at Ceylon, we had only a few passengers either from Madras, or Calcutta, all, however, more or less imbued with their Indian position and their own importance. We found at Galle travellers of a different stamp, from Australia, Japan, China, and Straits of Malacca, all joining our small party at this interesting point. So soon as we left Galle, there seemed to be a sharp line drawn between our Indian fellow-passengers and those further from the east, or who had come from the south of the world. It was peculiarly seen in the conduct pursued by some of the Indians to a party of American ladies, the husband of one of whom held a high place in Japan. Throughout our whole journey to Suez, no notice was taken of these ladies by many of the Indian passengers. The Australians, on the other hand, were so numerous, they formed a society of their own, and though not showing the refinement of manners of the Indian party, nor their cultivated self-esteem, they possessed so strong an indication of good

sense and self-reliance, that they soon became familiar with those who were temporary travellers or globe-trotters. In my intercourse with these Australians, I found a great contrast between them and all our Indian and China passengers—some of them intelligent and cultivated people; others of the squatter tribe, going home for good, with their pockets lined with gold; some of the lawyer class, though brusque and outspoken, were thoroughly trained in their profession. One of these parties held an official position in Australia, and gave curious accounts derived from personal knowledge, of the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh to Australia. This gentleman stated, positively from his own knowledge, that by far the greater number of stories told of H.R.H., and related in this country, were pure fabrications, and for the honour of our country, and fame of our Queen's family, I was glad to hear the narration. The incivility shown by some of the passengers to the American ladies was such, that when I met with them at their hotel at Cairo, one of them said that, on board our good ship, some of the parties had insulted them so much, that they had never been so treated throughout the whole of their travels; and on enquiry I found the American ladies belonged to a family thoroughly well known both in the northern and southern portions of their country, and one of their ancestors had, about thirty years ago, been twice elected President of the United States. Having travelled twice in

America, and received the greatest kindness from its people, I felt indignant at the statement thus made —apologised as well as I could for such rudeness, and expressed some of the reasons why it was likely to have happened. It is, perhaps, necessary to explain, that the female portion of the population of America are looked upon with such veneration and regard, that the expressions of their will, in many respects, may be represented as law for the male sex. This is found to be the case by all travellers in that country. Whether in private society, or in public conveyances, or at any of the splendid hotels throughout their country, or at the public parties so frequent, during a portion of the year, at such places as Lake George or Saratoga, the ladies are paramount. The offence given to my American lady travellers may therefore have partly arisen from the absence of the great court constantly paid to them in their own country.

In approaching Point de Galle there is considerable danger, arising from hidden rocks around the entrance to the bay and anchorage ground. Many ships, after a prosperous voyage, have been wrecked upon these rocks, and the P. & O. Company are so thoroughly alive to this danger, that none of their ships are allowed to enter the harbour, but during daylight. As an evidence of this precaution, the remnant of a wreck of a French ship, which had come to grief only a short time before we arrived, was seen as we approached the harbour, and on our

voyage we carried home a portion of her crew. To prevent such accidents occurring in the future, a lighthouse is being erected in a prominent position, which will no doubt be of beneficial assistance to all ships halting at this important station. No sooner had we cast anchor than we found the bay, around our good ship, swarming with boats filled with the natives of the country. These boats are chiefly composed of what is called an outrigger or canoe. It carries two men to paddle with, and only two passengers can be taken ashore in it. Those outriggers are most singular boats, but are so carefully managed by the natives, that little danger seems to exist even in rough weather. On our landing, the natives who wait upon the ships surrounded us in large numbers, and pestered us to purchase gold rings with precious stones, and lots of sham jewellery. Many travellers are taken in by this bargaining, and from their confidence in trading and the glibness of their tongues in speaking Singalese English, they seem to pursue a trade of a profitable character.

The traveller, approaching Ceylon for the first time, can never forget the glorious scene which presents itself in its tropical scenery and verdure of most gorgeous description, in the azure blue of the sea, in the green forests of the interior, rising up to the highest mountains, and to the celebrated peak, upwards of 7,000 feet high, which answers to the name of "Adam."

On reaching the shore we found our way to the Oriental Hotel, and were entertained there at lunch, along with a large number of our ship's passengers, and found this hotel about the cleanest and best in our Eastern travels. In order to pass a portion of our leisure time ashore, and gaze upon this fairy scene, we hired "Bandy," a conveyance peculiar to this part of the world, and started for a drive into the interior, and found ourselves soon passing along a good road, surrounded by a luxurious vegetation, which was quite new to us, notwithstanding our Indian experience. The beauty of the scenery surpassed anything we had hitherto seen. That of the valleys and mountains was something marvellous; and while they were thus a source of beauty to all, these valleys yield a production of food that renders the lives of the natives comparatively comfortable, even with small pay and little work.

The chief production of the island is coffee, which is now cultivated more or less successfully in such great quantities. Rice, grain, tobacco, bread-fruit, cocoa-nut, and the tar-tree, such are the chief articles cultivated for the natives—the cocoa-nut and the tar-tree produce a spirit, called in these quarters "Toddy." The natives whom we met and conversed with are called Singalese. They are more advanced in intelligence than many of those we met in India, and so far as we came across them, are the most acute of bargain-makers. Indeed it may be said in this respect, that the Hindoos of Cham-

param are infants, in the simplicity of their conduct, compared with the Singalese of Ceylon. Their heads appear to be of a different type from any of the castes of India. Their complexions are fairer, and are generally of what is called brachi-kephalic, or of the round-headed type. The Mohamedan type, again, of which some were seen here, are long-headed and long-visaged. A few among them are prognathous, and those of the Eurasian type appear very like the Anglo-Saxon. Their intercourse with Europeans give them a facility in speaking English ; and those with whom we conversed gave some information as to a festival then being celebrated at Galle. It is given in honour of the martyrdom of Housin and Hassin. Several days are employed in this festival in wailing, weeping, and lamentations, and then several days following in rejoicing, lasting in all about ten days. The majority of the people of this island are Hindoo Budhists, and have now a religion something akin to Chunder Sen's theism. The natives with whom I conversed showed apparent indifference to this festival, paid little attention to it, and seemed to smile at my enquiries regarding it. The Brahmin priests seem to hold but little power here. It is said those priests have both an aversion and an indisposition to cross the ocean from the mainland of India. The Budhist priest appears to hold the paramount power in matters theological, and is supposed to be very learned in his calling. In a controversy with an English bishop on the subject of his

faith, he rather worsted our countryman in the discussion. The doctrines of Buddha seem to have taken root at a very early period of the history of the island. The supposed conquest of Ceylon by Miago took place about 540 years B.C., and the establishment of Budhism dates from about the beginning of the fourth century anterior to the Christian era.

We now leave this enchanting island with fine weather, and full of hope of a moderate heat in our passage through the channel called the "eighth degree," between islands some only of which are inhabited.

This being Sunday, the 6th February, Captain Burn read the English service, and mustered the whole crew in their Sunday clothes. They were passed over in review by the captain and officers, and looked really a respectable and well-dressed class of men. The captain says, however, that the Lascars at work are not so good a class as they formerly had on board. He is of opinion that all classes of seamen have degenerated, and attributes this change to two causes—the one is emigration from England, and the other is high wages on land. We had an opportunity of examining the various types of Indians and Arabians that were now on board. The Indians called Lascars generally hail from Bengal. The Arabians and Africans, on the other hand, hail from Zanzibar and the east coast of Africa. Those from Zanzibar were large men, with considerable size of brain of the round-headed character, and of distinctly prognathous type, and quite unlike their com-

panions in the muster from India. Some of these Africans remind one, from the whole appearance of their heads, of the enormous "Sphinx" monument alongside of the pyramid of Ghizeh in Egypt. They are employed for a certain number of hours in most arduous work, filling the fireplaces of the boilers, and with a temperature reaching not less at times than 140 degrees. An intelligent naval officer informed me that in the sultry seasons these men, after working their appointed time, are brought up on deck, and laid upon the gridiron of the boilers, in an apparently unconscious state, and in order to revive them, it is usual to cast buckets of sea-water upon their bodies, and thus rally them into existence. These Africans are of a class I have only seen at Aden. Before approaching the Red Sea a variety of types of natives are there to be seen unlike those of many other parts of the world. Most of them are prognathous and jet black. Some of them call themselves Somalese, but are more like the "Papuans," who have the hair covering in curly mops the whole head, giving them thus a peculiar appearance. They are tall in stature, seemingly mentally acute, and are as good bankers as some of the Singalese in Ceylon. Their heads appear of larger type than those of the Hindoo; but taking them altogether, they look like an inferior class to the natives of India. Their women are strong and well developed, but singularly coarse in features. Besides these types there are some Parsees and black Jews to be found at Aden, who are, from

their education and peculiar talent, said to be the most acute of the whole population.

We are now passing the eighth degree channel, and running at nearly the rate of 300 miles a day, and having the wind N.W. we have the chance of moderate weather. As we pass up the Red Sea we have still a clear sky, and are at that part of the world where the peculiar cluster of stars called the "Southern Cross" can be successfully seen. From the remarks occasionally made on board, we had a natural desire to see this movement in the heavens, but found from our course in the ocean, it could only be successfully witnessed from two to four o'clock in the morning. I accordingly had courage to get up during that period of the night. It was curious to witness the stillness then on board the large ship we were sailing in. Not a soul was stirring or to be seen on deck but the pilot at his post and the watch told off at each end of the ship. I was soon hailed in my solitude by the watch, and having told my errand, had the pleasure on two successive mornings of witnessing this extraordinary sight in the heavens, of a cluster of stars resembling a cross.

*12th February, 1876.*—We now after pleasant weather arrive at the port of Aden on the morning of this day. A collection of extinct volcano rocks forms part of the harbour, and when looked at from the sea presents a most picturesque appearance, but the absence of vegetation shows it to be a comparatively

rainless district, and with the intense heat, arid-looking —the glare is so great that a traveller needs to protect the eyes with glasses fitted for the purpose. The harbour is placed behind the rocks, and the whole position is so protected from enemies, that there seems little chance of its being taken from under the control of England. It forms a magnificent protection to the entrance, westward to the Red Sea, the Gulf of Suez, and to the Canal, now open to all comers entering at Port Said. Aden is strongly defended, and capable of any resistance from without on both sides. It contains some of the best-made roads to be seen in the East, run through portions of the interior, with a large village erected there sufficient for the accommodation of two regiments of soldiers, besides engineers. At the distance of about three miles and a half from the sea-shore, there are immense erections for the storage of water. These are cut out of rock and solid masonry, having more the appearance at a distance of forts erected for protection, than for the storage of water. They are of a very extensive character, ascending into the gorge of the mountains behind, and appear to have been used, many centuries ago, for a population now extinct in this region. Some of the wells after having been cleared out now reach to 150 feet in depth, and the whole, when filled, are capable of containing water to last the consumption of a population of 25,000 for three years; and this supply is necessary, when it is

remembered, as stated to me, that little rain had fallen in the district for two years. To increase the supply of water, condensing machines are also used with a steam engine in full play. The water is brought to the town, carried by donkeys and camels. A considerable trade is carried on, in this settlement, with the interior of Arabia, and with the African ports opposite. Aden has good anchorage for shipping; and the low-lands of Arabia in the distance makes it from the sea look a striking and picturesque place.

We now proceed on a voyage down the Red Sea, passing the island Perim, a dependency of England, situated about nine miles from the Arabian and five miles from the African coasts. We enjoy weather quite unlike what was anticipated. It is still magnificent, and the sight of the rising and setting of the sun, something to be remembered for life. With a north wind the climate becomes delightful, and the thermometer at 7 A.M. marks 73°. We now pass many islands in the ocean, some on the African and others on the Arabian side, reaching on the latter, to the position of the celebrated site of Mecca. No peculiar incident rises to record till our arrival at Suez, which we reached about 10 A.M. of the 18th February, and thence commenced our parting—a portion of the passengers proceeding by the Suez Canal, and the others remaining at the hotel to make a partial journey through Egypt. I joined the latter

parties, and found myself in the company of the American ladies and the young son of one of them.

CAIRO, *February, 1876.*—We are now again in the land of Pharaoh, with a history looking down upon us for thousands of years anterior to the Christian era. A tempting country through which to travel and explore, with its charming climate, its hitherto mysterious monuments and temples, its antiquities, its palaces, its splendid fertilizing rivers, its canals, its never-ending supply of cereals for the use of man and all dependent creation, its hitherto undeveloped wealth beneath the surface, its royal dynasties and historical religions, would make it, as a sequel to a journey in India, one of the most interesting and instructive to the human mind. But we must halt. A narrative of its wonders would form a noble ground-work for another journal. For the present we lack the time, though the short sojourn, within the borders of Egypt, makes one feel the greater desire to return. Let us hope the time may yet come.

For the present, my dear friends, FAREWELL!

